



FIFTH DOCTOR TRILOGY: PART THREE  
THE CRADLE OF THE SNAKE

A FOUR-PART STORY BY MARC PLATT

**DRAMATIS PERSONAE**

**THE DOCTOR: PETER DAVISON**

Time traveller.

**NYSSA: SARAH SUTTON**

Time traveller's companion.

**TEGAN: JANET FIELDING**

Time traveller's companion.

**TURLOUGH: MARK STRICKSON**

Time traveller's companion.

**RICK AUSGARTEN:**

Celebrity scientist. Smooth, sharp, cultivated bonhomie. 30s.

**BAALAKA CALLED "BAALA":**

(pron. Bar-lak-er : Pali for *Child*.) Rick's assistant. Well-meaning, industrious, utterly innocent. Early 20s (apparently)

**YOANNA RAYLUSS:**

Government Safety Officer. Earnest, efficient, very PC. Mid 30s.

**DR HONRI KERREM:**

Neuroscientist at the Faculty of Advancement. Establishment, clubbable. Mid 50s.

**DADDA DESAKA:**

(pron. Dad-er Des-ar-ker: Pali for *Guide/Teacher*) Manussan tribesman. Leader of the Snakeherds. A mystic. Powerful, old and wise.

**ALSO: TUK-TUK DRIVER; SHOWMAN; POLICEMAN; POLICEMAN 2.**

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The story is set in the busy city of Pura on the planet Manussa, a prosperous and advanced world at the height of its Empire; a planet at peace with its past and future... or so it imagines. It's sunny, dusty, bustling and friendly – think Phnom Penh in Cambodia.

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**DIRECTOR:** BARNABY EDWARDS  
**SCRIPT EDITOR:** ALAN BARNES  
**PRODUCER:** DAVID RICHARDSON  
**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** NICHOLAS BRIGGS & JASON HAIGH-ELLERY

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**PART 1.**

**1. TARDIS CORRIDOR OUTSIDE TEGAN'S ROOM**

(FX: TARDIS HUM. THE DOCTOR KNOCKS LIGHTLY AT THE DOOR)

**DOCTOR**

Tegan? Come on, you can't stay in there all night. (BEAT)  
Tegan?

**NYSSA**

Doctor?

**DOCTOR**

She's locked herself in her room.

**NYSSA**

It's my room too.

**DOCTOR**

Yes. I know that, thank you, Nyssa.

(FX: HE KNOCKS AGAIN)

Come on, Tegan. We want to help.

**NYSSA**

She's scared. It was a shock.

**DOCTOR**

Completely understandable, but shutting herself away won't help. Tegan?

(FX: KNOCKS AGAIN)

**NYSSA**

I'm sure she'll open the door when she's ready.

**DOCTOR**

That's hardly the point. Suppose she's lost consciousness.

**NYSSA**

Could it be that bad?

**DOCTOR**

Tegan, just tell us that you're alright.

**TURLOUGH**

What's happening?

**NYSSA**

Not now, Turlough. Tegan's not feeling well.

**TURLOUGH**

She's ill? It's not contagious, is it?

**NYSSA**

It's not a virus if that's what you mean. Well, not in the normal sense.

**TURLOUGH**

So you do know what it is?

**DOCTOR**

Tegan, if the Mara really is still with you, then we can do something about it. I'll get some help.

**TURLOUGH**

The Mara? What's that?

**NYSSA**

Not now. I'll explain later.

**TURLOUGH**

That would be nice.

**DOCTOR**

Tegan, just one word... please.

**TURLOUGH**

You might have to kick the door down.

**DOCTOR**

Not if I can help it.

(BEAT)

**NYSSA**

Let me try.

**DOCTOR**

Be my guest.

(BEAT)

**NYSSA**

And it might be better if you were to... erm (leave.)

**DOCTOR**

(SIGH) Come on, Turlough. (QUIETLY) We won't be far.

**NYSSA**

I'll be fine, really.

**TURLOUGH**

Why? Is Tegan dangerous?

**DOCTOR**

Come on, Turlough.

**TURLOUGH**

(MOVING AWAY) I was only thinking of Nyssa.

(FX: NYSSA KNOCKS AT THE DOOR)

**NYSSA**

Tegan, it's me. The others have gone now. (BEAT) Look, I know it's difficult, but we're all worried about you. You can talk to me. You know you can. (BEAT) I was there before remember. On Manussa. I know what you're going through. So please, just say something.

(FX: AFTER A BEAT, A CHAIR IS PULLED AWAY FROM THE INSIDE. THE LOCK CLICKS. THE DOOR OPENS)

Tegan, thank goodness.

**TEGAN**

You can't even begin to know.

**2. TARDIS CONTROL ROOM**

(FX: THE DOCTOR BLIPS BUTTONS)

**DOCTOR**

We'll just stay here for a while.

(FX: FLIGHT HUM DIES)

**TURLOUGH**

Where's here?

**DOCTOR**

Nowhere really. I've put the TARDIS in a holding pattern. Better not to go anywhere for the moment.

**TURLOUGH**

You're quarantining us. Because of Tegan's illness.

**DOCTOR**

It's not an "illness." Not as such.

**TURLOUGH**

Well, what is it then? Nyssa called it "the Mara?" Is that right?

**DOCTOR**

The Mara, yes. But I'm not really sure how I'd define it. I think perhaps it's in all of us, deep in our minds. In our darkest thoughts, that's where it started. Some people call it a demon, but that's too simple. It's about temptation. You remember temptation, Turlough. The Devil always finds work for idle hands?

**TURLOUGH**

I put that behind me.

**DOCTOR**

Good. Because the Mara's always looking for a way to be born; to be more than just a nasty thought. It wants to break into our reality. And it delights in mocking order and causing chaos.

(FX: SPILLING THINGS OUT OF HIS POCKETS)

Now what have I done with that thing?

**TURLOUGH**

But what about Tegan? How's she involved?

**DOCTOR**

Tegan was vulnerable. Not really through her own fault. But the Mara found a way through her troubled dreams into the world.

(FX EMPTIES MORE THINGS FROM ANOTHER POCKET)

No, not here either. Where have I put it? I'd hoped we'd dealt with the Mara once... but then it came back. And now it's back again.

**TURLOUGH**

How many times?

**DOCTOR**

This is the third appearance. And each time it seems to coil itself tighter.

### **3. TARDIS. TEGAN'S ROOM**

**TEGAN**

I suppose I've been in denial all this time. Hoping it wasn't there, you know? Well, I should have known better. I did know. I knew it was there.

**NYSSA**

Suppose we try and get you help? There are facilities on Terminus... if we could get you there.

**TEGAN**

I'd give the psychiatrists nervous breakdowns.

**NYSSA**

Then talk to the Doctor. He's bound to have ideas.

**TEGAN**

What's the point?

**NYSSA**

Tegan...

**TEGAN**

Even now you're looking at me and thinking is that her or the Mara talking.

**NYSSA**

I know it's you.

**TEGAN**

Do you? I've been having dreams again too.

(FX: MARA STING, AS FIRST HEARD IN *Kinda*)

**NYSSA**

I know. You've been sleeping badly.

**TEGAN**

Sorry to keep you awake. I suppose you told the Doctor?

**NYSSA**

No.

**TEGAN**

Really? There was a time when you'd have been running straight to him. Or our good friend Turlough, now he's on the straight and narrow.

**NYSSA**

He's concerned. We all are.

**TEGAN**

(VOICE DARKENING) You're all so nice and wholesome... and boring.

**NYSSA**

Tegan...

**TEGAN**

Always so considerate. What a waste. There are better things to do with the Universe.

**NYSSA**

(GETTING NERVOUS) I think I should fetch the Doctor... so he knows you're alright.

**TEGAN**

Don't go yet.

(FX: TEGAN SHUTS THE DOOR)

**NYSSA**

Please open the door.

**TEGAN**

Nyssa, you're always helping other people when you could be helping yourself. Wouldn't that be better?

**NYSSA**

That's not what I believe in. Please let me out.

**TEGAN**

But there's so much more. Think about it.

**NYSSA**

You're not Tegan.

**TEGAN**

At last. Well done. You got the direct line to Maraland.

**NYSSA**

I'm not interested.

**TEGAN**

Stick with me and you can start to enjoy yourself. Look. Here. See what's under my sleeve.

(FX: RUFFLES UP HER SLEEVE. MARA STING)

**NYSSA**

(SCARED) The sign of the snake.

**TEGAN**

Isn't that what you want? (LAUGHS) Of course it is. Don't resist, Nyssa.



**NYSSA**

Leave me alone.

**TEGAN**

Take it!

**NYSSA**

No!

(FX: DOOR BURSTS OPEN)

**DOCTOR**

Tegan! Keep away from her!

**TEGAN**

You! Interfering...!

(FX: THE LITTLE MIND'S EYE CRYSTAL RINGS OUT)

**DOCTOR**

Remember this, Tegan? The little mind's eye from Manussa.

**TEGAN**

(LAUGHS)

**DOCTOR**

Look at the crystal! Try to focus your thoughts.

**TEGAN**

It's just a toy.

**DOCTOR**

Hardly that.

**TEGAN**

It takes two to play the game, Doctor. Come and find me!

**DOCTOR**

Tegan!

**TEGAN**

(GASPS AND COLLAPSES.)

**DOCTOR**

(CATCHING HER) It's alright. I've got her.

**NYSSA**

She fainted.

**DOCTOR**

Did she? (TEGAN'S HEAVY) Where's Turlough?

**TURLOUGH**

Here, Doctor. Nyssa? Are you alright?

**NYSSA**

I'll be fine.

**DOCTOR**

Help me with Tegan.

**TURLOUGH**

Right.

(FX: THEY LIFT)

**DOCTOR**

Lay her down. That's it. Nyssa?

**NYSSA**

How's her pulse?

**DOCTOR**

Slow.

**TURLOUGH**

Her voice was all wrong. Like someone else's. Not Tegan at all.

**NYSSA**

We could use the sleep induction box again. That would blot out her dreams.

**DOCTOR**

I think it's too late for that.

**TURLOUGH**

And there's a snake mark on her arm. Is that the Mara?

**DOCTOR**

Later, Turlough.

**NYSSA**

Doctor?

**DOCTOR**

You heard what she said.

**NYSSA**

The game, yes.

**DOCTOR**

It was a challenge. The Mara's withdrawn into Tegan's psyche. And it wants me to go in after it.

#### **4. TEGAN'S ROOM**

**DOCTOR**

No. No, move my chair a bit closer.

(FX: HEAVY CHAIR SCRAPES FORWARD)

**TURLOUGH**

Got it. But I still think this is a bad idea.

**NYSSA**

The Doctor has to do this now. We can't land the TARDIS. If the Mara got loose on some unsuspecting planet, just think what havoc it would cause.

**TURLOUGH**

But going into Tegan's mind? Rather you than me.

**DOCTOR**

All right, both of you, while I'm asleep...

**NYSSA**

You want us to stay with you.

**DOCTOR**

Please sit quietly and don't do anything to wake me. That's important. I'll do that myself.

**NYSSA**

And suppose Tegan wakes up first?

**TURLOUGH**

Just hope it is Tegan.

**DOCTOR**

I won't let that happen.

**NYSSA**

It's still very risky.

**DOCTOR**

Yes, it is. Right. Wish me luck. (BEAT) So... I focus my thoughts through the crystal.

(FX: THE CRYSTAL RINGS)

(DEEP BREATH) Deeper... deeper... until... I find... the still point.

**NYSSA**

(QUIETLY) He's gone. So quickly.

**TURLOUGH**

Nyssa? Look at Tegan. She's smiling.

**5. TEGAN'S MINDSPACE – CABIN OF A CESSNA LIGHT AIRCRAFT IN FLIGHT**

(FX: WE HOME IN ON THE BURR OF THE ENGINE)

**TEGAN**

You nearly missed the flight, Doctor. But then time was never your strong point, was it?

**DOCTOR**

Is this Tegan's plane?

**TEGAN**

Her Dad's.

**DOCTOR**

Single engine Cessna Skyhawk. I suppose five thousand feet is as good a place to talk as any.

**TEGAN**

It's one of her fondest memories. Flying with him over the farm. A couple of thousand Merinos to look out for.

**DOCTOR**

It's her memory, not yours.

**TEGAN**

Oh, we're pretty close, Tegan and me. Hard to prise us apart.

**DOCTOR**

I doubt she has any say in the matter. You've been in her mind long enough. It's time you went back where you came from.

(FX: PLANE BANKS SHARPLY)

**DOCTOR**

(GASPS.)

(FX: PLANE LEVELS AGAIN)

**TEGAN**

Whoops! Sorry about that. We seem to be hitting a bit of turbulence.

**DOCTOR**

I want you to leave Tegan now.

**TEGAN**

You'll have to focus your thoughts better. You can't just throw the Mara out. It doesn't work like that. I have to go somewhere.

**DOCTOR**

I can think of a few places. Just go!

(FX: THE CRYSTAL RINGS. THE PLANE BANKS FIERCELY)

**DOCTOR**

(GASPS.)

**TEGAN**

(OVER ENGINE NOISE) Remember where you are, Doctor!

**DOCTOR**

Tegan! Tegan, can you hear me? Try to fight the Mara!

**TEGAN**

Oh, please!

(FX: CRYSTAL RESONATES. PLANE STILL BANKING)

**DOCTOR**

I'll drive you out. Before you destroy Tegan's mind completely!

**TEGAN**

Make me a better offer!

**DOCTOR**

You don't belong here!

**TEGAN**

Neither do you! Go and talk to the other sheep!

(FX: DOOR CLUNKS OPEN.

THE **DOCTOR** YELLS INTO THE DISTANCE, FALLING.)

## **6. TEGAN'S MINDSPACE – HILLSIDE**

(FX: THE **DOCTOR'S** YELL ZOOMS UP. HE HITS THE GROUND.)

**DOCTOR:**

(OOF!)

(BEAT. SHEEP BLEATING. TWO SHEEP CALLED **NYSSA** AND **TURLOUGH**, BOTH CHEWING GRASS, STAND AND LOOK AT HIM. *PRODUCER'S NOTE:* IT'LL BE UP TO THE DIRECTOR AND THE ACTORS TO DECIDE HOW MUCH OF A SHEEP VOCAL DELIVERY IS REQUITED!)

**TURLOUGH**

It's that look again.

**NYSSA**

Indignant. Mortally offended.

**TURLOUGH**

Ba-a-a-a-ad news. Always knew he was heading for a fall.

**NYSSA**

Do you think he's losing his faculties?

**TURLOUGH**

Has been for years. Good thing he landed face down.

**NYSSA**

If he'd fallen on his back, he'd never be able to stand up again.

**TURLOUGH**

The trouble is, he's always focussed on the top of the hill...

**NYSSA**

And never notices the be-e-e-e-est grass under his feet.

**DOCTOR**

What are you two sheep staring at? (SITS UP) Oh... typical. That's my best coat.

**NYSSA & TURLOUGH**

(REPEATING INTO THE DISTANCE Mu-u-u-u-ud! Mu-u-u-u-ud!

**TEGAN**

(APPROACHING) Any thoughts, Doctor?

**DOCTOR**

Oh, there you are. Parked your plane, I see. No, no thoughts.

**TEGAN**

Then I'll make you an offer. Tegan is yours if I find a new home.

**DOCTOR**

Meaning what exactly?

**TEGAN**

Now where shall I go?

(FX: BLEATING SHEEP)

Hmm. Difficult to choose. Which do you think?

**DOCTOR**

Oh, no. You leave Nyssa and Turloug alone.

**TEGAN**

You're right, of course. Who needs all that bleating? When I could go for something a bit more up market... *Doctor*.

(FX: CRYSTAL STARTS TO RING)

**DOCTOR**

I want you out of Tegan's mind. Leave her alone.

**TEGAN**

Remember this? The Mark of the Snake?

(FX: MARA STING)

**DOCTOR**

Keep away from me. I can resist you!

**TEGAN**

Can you, Doctor? Really?

**DOCTOR**

Oh, yes. I can resist you. I can drive you out!

## **7. TARDIS. TEGAN'S BEDROOM**

**DOCTOR**

(SLEEPING. HE MOANS. BAD DREAM.)

**TURLOUGH**

What sort of dream is he *having*?

**NYSSA**

I don't like this, Turlough. I think we should wake him.

**TURLOUGH**

He told us not to.

**NYSSA**

He's feverish. Suppose he's in trouble.

**TURLOUGH**

Tegan doesn't seem worried. She's still well out of it.

**NYSSA**

I can't just sit here.

**DOCTOR**

(MUTTER) Tegan! Stay away! No!

**NYSSA**

Right. That's it. I'm waking him. I'll take the blame.

**TURLOUGH**

Careful.

**NYSSA**

(GENTLY) Doctor? Come on, Doctor. Please wake up. Please.

**DOCTOR**

(WAKING) Leave Tegan alone! (BEAT) Ah... Nyssa...

**NYSSA**

Doctor, I'm sorry. I had to wake you.

**TURLOUGH**

We were both worried. You were yelling as if you were fighting something.

**DOCTOR**

I told you not to wake me!

**NYSSA**

Is the Mara still there? In Tegan's mind?



**DOCTOR**

It was. I was drawing it out into the open. Loosening its grip. But now...? Who knows?

**NYSSA**

I'm really sorry.

**DOCTOR**

Don't you ever listen?

**TURLOUGH**

We're both sorry.

**DOCTOR**

So you should be. Look at the crystal.

**NYSSA**

The Little Mind's Eye. It's broken. How did that happen?

**DOCTOR**

Probably when the Mara attacked me. When I tried to drive it out.

**NYSSA**

Maybe you succeeded. It might have gone.

**DOCTOR**

Gone where?

**TURLOUGH**

Tegan's still asleep. But she's getting some colour back.

**NYSSA**

That's a good sign.

**TEGAN**

(CHEERFULLY SLEEPY) Hulloo... What are you all doing here?

**DOCTOR**

Tegan, hello. How did you sleep?

**TEGAN**

Like a log, thanks. It was nice.

**TURLOUGH**

Any dreams?

**NYSSA**

Turlough...

**TURLOUGH**

Only asking.

**TEGAN**

Yes, I was dreaming. I was at the beach eating ice cream. Chocolate and strawberry, like when I was little. You know when it melts faster than you can eat it.

**DOCTOR**

Pleasant dreams then. That's good.

**TEGAN**

What happened to your crystal? It's broken.

**DOCTOR**

Bit of an accident, that's all. Not to worry. Could I just... look at your arm?

**TEGAN**

Oh... The Mara. I forgot. How could I forget that? Did you do something?

**DOCTOR**

I sincerely hope so. There's no mark on your arm.

**TEGAN**

There hasn't been for ages actually. Not since last time.

**NYSSA**

I think you're much better.

**DOCTOR**

Do you *feel* better?

**TEGAN**

Dunno. Maybe. Yes, I suppose I do feel better.

**DOCTOR**

Splendid. Come on then, you two. I'm sure Tegan wants to freshen up.

**TURLOUGH**

And I could do with some breakfast.

**NYSSA**

Me too.

(FX: THEY LEAVE)

**TEGAN**

See you later.

(FX: DOOR CLOSES)

## **8. TARDIS CORRIDOR**

(FX: DOCTOR AND NYSSA WALKING)

**NYSSA**

(QUIETLY) You're not sure, are you?

**DOCTOR**

I don't know. What I really need, after tea and a slice of toast, is a second opinion.

**NYSSA**

Launching Tegan out into an unsuspecting world? Suppose the Mara is still in her?

**DOCTOR**

Well, what can I do? We can't stay circling in nowhere for ever. Sorry, Nyssa. I have to take the risk.

## **9. DREAM CHANNEL ADVERT**

FX: UPBEAT ADVERT MUSIC

**RICK**

Bored with the same old routine?  
Had all your hopes dashed?  
And your dreams gone flat?

But now the latest technological advances can change all that.  
Suddenly nothing need be out of reach again.

(FX: IN THE BACKGROUND, THE TARDIS LANDS)

I believe we're on the edge of a revolution in therapy and entertainment.

And tomorrow night that dream comes true.

I'm Rick ausGarten. Join me tomorrow at eight for *Dreamarama*, live on the Sundown Channel, when I'll prove that we are such things as dreams are made of.

And you'll never be the same again.

## **10. TARDIS CONTROL ROOM**

(FX: TARDIS LANDS. BOING.)

### **DOCTOR**

Dojjen. Remember him? The old archaeologist on Manussa who went native and joined the snakedancers.

### **TURLOUGH**

Snakedancers?

### **NYSSA**

Is that where we are? Manussa again?

### **DOCTOR**

Yes. I thought we might pop in and see him. Just to catch up. I have so many friends I only ever meet once.

### **TEGAN**

This is for my benefit, isn't it?

### **DOCTOR**

I did hope he might give you a quick check up.

### **TEGAN**

I knew it was too good to last. It's still there, isn't it? That "thing?" In my head?

### **DOCTOR**

Now Tegan...

(FX: SCANNER ACTIVATES)

### **TURLOUGH**

Is that it? Manussa? It's more advanced than I thought.

### **NYSSA**

Is it? That doesn't look right.

### **TEGAN**

Typical! He winds me up and then brings me to the wrong place.

### **DOCTOR**

No. Definitely Manussa. I set the co-ordinates myself.

### **TEGAN**

Well, look at it. They didn't have high rise buildings like that.

### **NYSSA**

No, the Doctor's right. It is Manussa...

**DOCTOR**

Thank you.

**NYSSA**

...but the date's wrong.

**DOCTOR**

Let me see.

**TEGAN**

If that is Manussa, it's hundreds of years later.

**NYSSA**

Actually, it's much earlier.

**TURLOUGH**

Earlier?

**DOCTOR**

Alright. Which of you touched the controls?

**TURLOUGH**

Well, don't look at me.

**TEGAN**

Certainly not.

**NYSSA**

Nor me.

**DOCTOR**

Well, whoever's responsible, they've landed us centuries before I planned. And the planet is far more advanced. This is the Manussan Empire, long before its subjugation and decline under the terrible yoke of the Mara.

(FX: MARA STING)

## **11. RICK AUSGARTEN'S WAREHOUSE**

(FX: CAGED BIRDS SINGING, SQUAWKING)

**BAALA**

(FEEDING A BIRD) Come on, beaky. Take it. That's it...

**RICK**

(APPROACHING) Baala!

**BAALA**

Over here, Mr ausG.

**RICK**

Get a move on, Baala. It's ten to noon already. She'll be here any minute.

**BAALA**

But I've still to feed the birds and animals. It upsets them if their routine goes wrong.

**RICK**

And keep this warehouse locked. The Safety Officer, Mrs... "Rayluss", is only checking the studio. Not out here. One glimpse of the livestock and she'll shut us down anyway. I thought we'd give her a run through of tomorrow's show.

**BAALA**

You know the old man's back.

**RICK**

What?

**BAALA**

Dadda Desaka.

**RICK**

Not again. I thought you got rid of him.

**BAALA**

He's sitting out the front, protesting. He's even got a placard. He says we're committing blasphemy. All our work and the show.

**RICK**

This is your fault, Baala. If you hadn't given him food... He's not another pet; he's a damn nuisance.

**BAALA**

The Dadda's a mystic.

**RICK**

He's a grubby old tramp who wandered down from the hills. I'm getting him moved on.

**BAALA**

You can't. He's a native Manussan holy man. He's protected by law.

**RICK**

Tell you what: we'll invite him on the show and see what his holy thoughts look like. If that doesn't grab the ratings, nothing will.

**BAALA**

I don't think he'll consent to that.

(FX: BUZZER)

**RICK**

Ah, not already. That'll be the Officer. You close this place up. I'll honey her round the studio. By the time we're done, it'll have the cleanest safety bill ever.

**12. EXT. PARK**

(FX: CHILDREN PLAYING. PASSERS-BY. IT'S A SUNNY AND HAPPY PLACE.)

**TEGAN**

It's really not so bad here.

**NYSSA**

You almost sound convinced.

**TEGAN**

Well, I figured that since I know I didn't change the coordinates, then it's not my problem. So I'm going to enjoy myself. It's a long time since I sat in a park and did nothing.

**TURLOUGH**

It wasn't me that altered the coordinates either.

**NYSSA**

I don't think it was any of us. Just the Doctor making a slip. It's easily done.

**TURLOUGH**

Where is he anyway?

**NYSSA**

He went to make some enquiries.

**TEGAN**

Mm, this is more like it. Palm trees, fountains. I could sit here all day and soak up the sun. If I had money, I'd buy us all ice creams.

**TURLOUGH**

I'm going for a stroll.

**NYSSA**

Don't go too far.

**TURLOUGH**

(MOVING OFF) I won't.

**NYSSA**

Turlough's nervous. He won't sit still.

**TEGAN**

He's always nervous. And with good cause this time.

**NYSSA**

Tegan, you don't mean it was him.

**TEGAN**

Why not? If the Mara has left me...

**NYSSA**

Tegan...

**TEGAN**

Which it has. Then surely Turlough's the obvious place for it to go. He must have interfered.

**NYSSA**

I wouldn't say that without proof. I'm nervous too. What does that tell you?

**DOCTOR**

(ARRIVING) It's very pleasant here. Just the spot for a rest.

**NYSSA**

Hello. Did you find what you wanted?

**DOCTOR**

I did indeed. Whatever Manussa's future's like, it's certainly a thriving and enlightened world just now. And tomorrow is New Year. Fancy that. I expect there'll be parties.

**NYSSA**

That'll be good.

**DOCTOR**

Where's Turlough?



**TEGAN**

Mooching about somewhere.

**DOCTOR**

Right. Well, the information office was very helpful. They've put me in touch with an eminent neuroscientist. Doctor Honri Kerrem at the Faculty of Advancement. And he's agreed to give you a thorough check up, Tegan.

**NYSSA**

That's a wonderful idea.

**DOCTOR**

Yes, I think so. Tegan?

**TEGAN**

Okay. Fine.

**DOCTOR**

You're not even going to argue?

**TEGAN**

Not if it proves to you what I already know.

**DOCTOR**

Good, good. It's just across town, so we'll need to take a tuk-tuk. Nyssa, you and Turlough can wait here. We'll only be a couple of hours.

**NYSSA**

All right. Good luck, Tegan. I'll go and tell Turlough now.

(FX: FOUNTAINS PLAY)

**TURLOUGH**

Nyssa?

**NYSSA**

The Doctor's taken Tegan to see a specialist.

**TURLOUGH**

I saw them go. I hope he gets danger money.

(BEAT)

**NYSSA**

Look, are you all right? You've gone very edgy.

**TURLOUGH**

You think I'm "infected", don't you? But I'm not. Really I'm not... You know that, don't you?

**NYSSA**

I don't know, Turlough. You tell me.

**13. EXT. ABOARD THE TUK-TUK**

(FX: BUZZY CHUG OF THE TUK-TUK THROUGH TRAFFIC)

**DOCTOR**

This is certainly the way to see the city. Everyone living their lives on the street, like an endless market.

**TEGAN**

Is this going to be okay, Doctor?

**DOCTOR**

I think so. Doctor Kerrem assured me that he has the most advanced techniques in neural probes and crystal scanning. And I'll be there with you. It'll be fine.

**TEGAN**

I think I'd rather have a private consultation.

**DOCTOR**

If you like, but I won't be far away. I promise.

**TEGAN**

I do appreciate it, you know. Even if I do come over like all spiky and moaning.

**DOCTOR**

You, Tegan? Surely not. You've had a horrible time. Let's get this cleared once and for all.

(FX: A TALKING BILLBOARD WITH THE VOICE OF RICK PASSES THEM. TINNY MUSIC)

**RICK**

(DISTORT) *Have all your dreams gone flat? Well, I aim to make them all come true.*

**TEGAN**

What is that?

**DOCTOR**

Some sort of advert.

**RICK**

(DISTORT) *I'm Rick ausGarten. Join me tomorrow at eight, New Year's Eve, for Dreamarama, live on the Sundown Channel. Look into the crystal. Your dreams will never be the same again.*

**TEGAN**

(SCARED) My dreams? Doctor, promise me that's not where we're going.

#### **14. INT. RICK'S STUDIO**

YOANNA RAYLUSS FINISHES HER SAFETY AUDIT.

**YOANNA**

Well, the studio seems to be in order, Mr ausGarten. Once you've attended to the door in the isolation chamber, that is.

**RICK**

Right. Well erm, thanks, Mrs Rayluss. You've been very helpful. I'll show you out.

**YOANNA**

My real concern is the subjects, the members of public taking part in the experiment. They should undergo a full health check beforehand.

**RICK**

Yeah, well, that's not so easy. Coz it's live, there's the element of surprise. Anyone can get chosen.

**YOANNA**

I do see that as a problem. "Matter realisation?" Is that what you call it?

**RICK**

Pure thought goes into the crystal and comes out as living matter. It's easy. No ill effects.

**YOANNA**

I know it's an illusion, like a rabbit out of a hat.

**RICK**

No, no. Don't mock it. Our process is scientifically proven. We've done over eight hundred test runs. It's amazing and fun. It's bringing science to the people.

**YOANNA**

Not to everyone, it seems. I thought that alarming old tribesman outside was going to throw something. He swore you were cursed and you'd bring all sorts of horrors down on the city.

**RICK**

All publicity is good publicity.

**YOANNA**

And a lot of people believe that stuff. We don't want a disaster. Not on live transmission.

**RICK**

Tell you what. Why don't you have a go?

**YOANNA**

I don't think so.

**RICK**

Why not? What better proof than if you've done it yourself? Come on. Can I call you Yoanna? Think of something you'd like.

**YOANNA**

Well, I confess I am intrigued.

**RICK**

Right then. It's already on standby. So sit yourself in the Chair of Dreams...

**YOANNA**

The Chair of Dreams? Oh, well. I suppose...

(FX: SHE SITS)

**RICK**

Lovely. Now we'll run a quick scan into the old electric crystal to map out your brain potential. And then let's see what you can think into existence.

## **15. DR KERREM'S CONSULTANCY**

**KERREM**

Now Tegan, are you comfortable?

**TEGAN**

I guess so.

**KERREM**

The skullcap not too tight?

**TEGAN**

Fine. Thanks, Dr Kerrem.

**KERREM**

Good. Now the blue crystal here in the neuro-imager...

**TEGAN**

It's like the Mind's Eye.

**KERREM**

I'm sorry?

**TEGAN**

The Doctor... he had something like it.

**KERREM**

Your companion?

**TEGAN**

Yes.

**KERREM**

He seemed a knowledgeable fellow. Well read for one so young.

**TEGAN**

He is. I mean, he's not as young as you think, but don't tell him I said that.

**KERREM**

Right. So the crystal will scan your brain in multi-modal detail. In particular, the cerebral cortex and hippocampus: what we think of as the "aware areas." It'll highlight any abnormalities or disturbances – any extra activity that might be causing you to dream.

**TEGAN**

Okay.

**KERREM**

Right. You may feel a slight tingling, a little like itching on the inside, but that's nothing to worry about. So, ready, Tegan?

**TEGAN**

Ready.

## **16. RICK'S STUDIO**

YOANNA IN THE CHAIR.

(FX: RICK'S DREAM MAKER STARTS TO PULSE WITH POWER)

**BAALA**

Dreammaker now scanning.

**RICK**

Just relax, Yoanna. This only takes a few moments.

**BAALA**

Scan complete. Thoughts are now compatible.

**RICK**

Thanks, Baala. Okay. You remember what you wanted to visualise?

**YOANNA**

I do.

**RICK**

Don't tell us. Just think of it now. In detail. And don't change your mind halfway through.

**YOANNA**

I'm thinking.

**RICK**

Good.

(FX: THE MACHINE STARTS TO THRUM)

**BAALA**

Image forming in isolation chamber.

**RICK**

Here it comes. It's a flower. Yes?

**YOANNA**

Erm... well...

**BAALA**

Consolidating.

**RICK**

A giant flower. A rose. Ah, that's very nice. Lovely. Good image.

**YOANNA**

That's not what I was thinking.

**RICK**

Not a rose?

**YOANNA**

There's something there. In the flower. Look! Something squirming. Ugh... what's that? It's horrible!

**17. THE DOCTOR'S HEAD/KERREM'S WAITING ROOM**

(FX: THE MACHINE'S PULSING ECHOES IN THE DOCTOR'S HEAD)

**DOCTOR**

It's a rose... and there's something growing in it. (ENJOYING THIS) Struggling through the petals to be born. (HE STARTS TO LAUGH)

**KERREM**

Doctor?

(FX: THE MACHINE SNAPS OFF)

THE **DOCTOR** GASPS.

**DOCTOR**

Dr Kerrem?

**KERREM**

Are you all right, old chap?

**DOCTOR**

Yes, fine. Miles away. Sorry, must be sitting in a draught.

**KERREM**

Well, I'm delighted to say that the scan's complete. So if you'd like to come through, Tegan's waiting.

**DOCTOR**

(DARKLY) Good. I look forward to that.

**18. RICK'S STUDIO**

(FX: THE PULSING OF THE MACHINE DIES DOWN)

**YOANNA**

(FRIGHTENED) Did you see it?

**RICK**

I'm not sure.

**YOANNA**

Something was moving in the petals. Writhing. Like a snake.

(FX: MARA STING)

And then there was a man, a tall man with fair hair... and he was watching in the shadows in the heart of the rose.

**RICK**

Baala, check the isolation chamber.

**BAALA**

Okay.

**YOANNA**

He was watching us from the dark.

**DADDA**

IS SUDDENLY THERE. SHAKING HIS MARACAS AT HER.

INTONING A WORDLESS DIRGE.

*(NB: Dadda Desaka's "wordless" dirges. There is a full version at the back of the script.)*

**YOANNA**

(GASPS WITH FRIGHT.)

**RICK**

Hey, you! How did you get in?

**BAALA**

Don't touch him!

**YOANNA**

Get him away from me!

**RICK**

Get him out!

**BAALA**

Dadda Desaka!



**DADDA**

Wickedness! Badness!

**BAALA**

Come on, Dadda. Outside now.

**DADDA**

Wickedness is born. It comes into the world.

**RICK**

Get out! Out!

**DADDA**

All be dead. (RESUMES SINGING)

**BAALA**

(LEADING HIM OUT) Come on. Out here. Nothing you can do.

**RICK**

Yoanna... Mrs Rayluss, I am so sorry.

**YOANNA**

I'm leaving.

**RICK**

No, don't go. It was just an accident. Oh, look, you're shaking. I'll get you a drink.

**YOANNA**

It's very clear, Mr ausGarten, that your project is highly dangerous. All this is going in my report.

**RICK**

It's never happened before. I don't understand.

**YOANNA**

I'm recommending closure of your project pending a further full investigation. Good afternoon.

(FX: SHE LEAVES, SHOES CLICKING AWAY. THE DOOR CLOSES)

**RICK**

(YELLS IN FURY) Deadheaded bureaucratic pen-pushers! Now what do I now?! Baala? What do we do now!

**BAALA**

The rose is dead. Look. All withered away.

**RICK**

(DEFEATED) She wasn't even thinking of a rose.

## **19. KERREM'S CONSULTANCY**

**DOCTOR**

(DELIGHTED) Tegan! How are you feeling?

**TEGAN**

A whole lot better thanks.

**DOCTOR**

Excellent!

**KERREM**

There's some miniscule damage to the tissue of the hippocampus, but nothing even remotely to worry about. I'll prescribe you something to help you sleep, but overall you're in fine fettle.

**DOCTOR**

So it's an 'all clear'.

**TEGAN**

Certainly is. Thank you Dr... Doctors.

**DOCTOR**

If you want to get some fresh air, I'll erm... settle up with Doctor Kerrem.

**TEGAN**

(MUTTER) You have money?

**DOCTOR**

I'm sure we can come to an agreement.

**TEGAN**

Okay. See you in a minute.

(FX: SHE GOES. CLOSING THE DOOR)

**KERREM**

Spirited young lady. Pleasure to deal with her.

**DOCTOR**

Yes, indeed.

**KERREM**

So, I'll just run you off an invoice. You can make out a credit to the Faculty.

**DOCTOR**

Ye-es. Erm, Dr Kerrem?

**KERREM**

Yes, Doctor... after all that I still didn't catch your name.

**DOCTOR**

I did wonder, since I'm here.

**KERREM**

Something else I can offer?

**DOCTOR**

A word in private...

**KERREM**

Hmm?

**DOCTOR**

(GROWING SURLY) ...about an affliction of my own.

**KERREM**

(ANNOYED) What are you doing? Leave that alone.

**DOCTOR**

I'll be needing funds, you see. And contacts.

**KERREM**

You've changed your tune.

**DOCTOR**

For the better, I should say. My affliction is newly acquired. Newly born.

**KERREM**

What sort of affliction?

**DOCTOR**

Have you seen this before?

(FX: MARA STING)

**KERREM**

(HORRIFIED) All up your arm. Nasty looking snake thing. What does that mean?

**DOCTOR**

It's the Mark of the Mara.

**KERREM**

The what?

**DOCTOR**

It's alive and growing.

(FX: SNAKE HISSES)

**KERREM**

CRIES OUT IN PAIN

**DOCTOR**

And soon, with your help, all of Manussa shall know its name!

**END OF PART 1.**

**PART 2.**

**19. KERREM'S CONSULTANCY (REPRISE)**

**DOCTOR**

*Have you seen this before?*

*(FX: MARA STING)*

**KERREM**

*All up your arm. Nasty looking snake thing. What does that mean?*

**DOCTOR**

*It's the Mark of the Mara.*

**KERREM**

*The what?*

**DOCTOR**

*It's alive and growing.*

*(FX: SNAKE HISSES)*

**KERREM**

*CRIES OUT IN PAIN*

**DOCTOR**

*And soon, with your help, all of Manussa shall know its name!*

**20. EXT. PARK**

*(FX: AS BEFORE. CHILDREN PLAYING)*

**TURLOUGH**

*(EDGY) How long did the Doctor say he'd be? (BEAT) Nyssa?*

**NYSSA**

*(WAKING) Mm? Oh, sorry. I must have nodded off. It's so peaceful here.*

**TURLOUGH**

*The Doctor... when did he say he'd be back?*

**NYSSA**

*What's the time? Oh... Definitely not as long as this.*

**TURLOUGH**

*He's probably got lost. You know what he's like.*

(FX: ALL ACTIVITY STOPS. BIRDS STOP SINGING. CHILDREN STOP PLAYING)

**NYSSA**

I suppose we just... (wait.) (BEAT) Something's happening.

**TURLOUGH**

Not happening, you mean. (SHIVER) It's gone chilly.

**NYSSA**

Like the world catching its breath.

**TURLOUGH**

Or choking. What are we waiting for?

(FX: IDENTICAL AMBIENCE STARTS AGAIN. IDENTICAL CHILDREN PLAYING. TIME REPEATS – SORT OF)

**NYSSA**

(RELIEF) Oh, that's better. Turlough?

**TURLOUGH**

Mm? Sorry, I nearly nodded off. It's so peaceful here.

**NYSSA**

I'm sure the Doctor should be back by now.

**TURLOUGH**

Probably got lost. You know what he and Tegan are like.

**NYSSA**

I suppose we just wait.

(BEAT)

**TURLOUGH**

Over there.

**NYSSA**

Mm? Oh. Some sort of beggar?

**TURLOUGH**

He's a hunter. Look how he moves.

**DADDA**

(INTONES INCOMPREHENSIBLY IN THE DISTANCE.)

(FX: HE SHAKES HIS MARACAS)

**NYSSA**

When we were here before...

**TURLOUGH**

In the future?

**NYSSA**

Yes. They talked about tribesmen, up in the hills.  
Snakedancers.

**TURLOUGH**

Look out. Here he comes.

**DADDA**

(BURBLES AT THEM. SHAKES MARACAS.)

**NYSSA**

No. Sorry, we don't have anything to give.

**TURLOUGH**

He's probably got more than we have. Don't look at me like that.

**NYSSA**

Sorry. We don't understand you.

**DADDA**

(GROWL) You understand too much.

**NYSSA**

What do you mean? No, don't go. Come back!

**DADDA**

(WANDERS OFF BURBLING AND RATTLING.)

**TURLOUGH**

I don't like it here. Something's changed.

**NYSSA**

Where's the Doctor? Why doesn't he come back?

## **21. KERREM'S CONSULTANCY**

**DOCTOR**

(SNEER. THE MARA BRINGS OUT THE DARK SIDE OF THE DOCTOR. REVELLING IN EVIL CHARM AND SMOOTHNESS)  
Sit down, Dr Kerrem. It takes a few moments to settle in.

**KERREM**

(HIS DARK SIDE ALSO SUDDENLY TO THE FORE) No, no. (AMUSED) It's quite... quite invigorating. The Mara. Oh, yes. I think I shall enjoy this.

**DOCTOR**

Oh, you will, believe me. Tell me about the world. How advanced is Manussa's mind crystal technology?

**KERREM**

You saw for yourself. Medical practice is revolutionised.

**DOCTOR**

Only medical? What about a man called Rick ausGarten? The man on the billboards.

**KERREM**

Huh! That quack! He's a maverick.

**DOCTOR**

But he works with crystals too?

**KERREM**

He's more showman than scientist.

**DOCTOR**

Jealous, Dr Kerrem? Is Rick a disgrace to his profession? Or just popular?

**KERREM**

Bah.

**DOCTOR**

I think he's ideal for our purpose.

**KERREM**

All this nonsense about thought materialisation. He's certainly got himself a following.

**DOCTOR**

Has he indeed? Right, I want a list of the influential minds on Manussa. Not the idiot politicians, but the intellectuals. The thinkers.

**KERREM**

Anyone in particular?

**DOCTOR**

You have the contacts, Kerrem. Enjoy yourself. Settle your debts. I want them brought together. I have a task for them.

**KERREM**

Anything else?

**DOCTOR**

Money.

**KERREM**

Cash, you mean?

**DOCTOR**

Come on, cough up. I've got work to do.

(FX: GOING THROUGH WALLET)

**KERREM**

(SIGH) Here's five thousand in notes.

**DOCTOR**

And the rest. And that phone of yours while we're at it. I'll need to stay in touch.

**KERREM**

That's my private link.

**DOCTOR**

(TESTY) Good. Then I can call you on your public line.

(FX: DOOR OPENS)

**TEGAN**

Doctor? The tuk-tuk's still waiting.

**DOCTOR**

(SUDDENLY HIS OLD SELF) Tegan. Sorry to keep you.

**TEGAN**

The others'll be worrying.

**DOCTOR**

Yes, indeed. We must be going. Well, goodbye Dr Kerrem. Thanks again for your help.

**KERREM**

A pleasure, "Doctor."

**TEGAN**

Goodbye.

**DOCTOR**

(CONFIDENTIAL, TO KERREM) I'll give you a call... later.

(FX: DOOR CLOSSES. KERREM BEEPS HIS PHONE)

**KERREM**

Peshy? Put me through to the Director of the Faculty.



## **22. EXT. CITY PARK**

**NYSSA**

It's getting dark. Suppose we head back to the TARDIS?

**TURLOUGH**

We can't get in.

**NYSSA**

I know, but the Doctor will follow us.

**TURLOUGH**

Fine.

(FX: THEY START TO WALK)

**NYSSA**

You still haven't relaxed.

**TURLOUGH**

It's this place. Everyone's too nice. It makes me uncomfortable.

**NYSSA**

I liked it at first, but it does get a bit much. The goodness on my own world, on Traken, was robust in comparison.

**TURLOUGH**

You were brought up being reasonable.

**NYSSA**

Yes, I was. But here, the locals are trying almost too hard.

**TURLOUGH**

As if they're hiding something. I wonder what.

**NYSSA**

Or is it just that we know what's coming?

**TURLOUGH**

I don't. (SIGH) And now I suppose you're going to tell me. Go on then.

**NYSSA**

Sorry, Turlough. But all this world, the heart of the Manusnan Empire, gets swept away under the rule of the Mara.

**TURLOUGH**

That snake thing on Tegan's arm?

**NYSSA**

Hopefully not any more. The Mara created... *will* create its own Sumaran Empire.

**TURLOUGH**

I wish I hadn't asked.

**NYSSA**

But surely an Empire implies order. I never understood that. How can an Empire exist under the Mara? It's a spirit of mockery and chaos and evil. Anyway that doesn't happen yet. We've arrived years too early.

**YOANNA**

(SHORT WAY OFF. DISTRAUGHT) No, no, no. That's not what I asked for!

**TURLOUGH**

Oh, hello. Now what's happening?

**YOANNA**

I don't want these charms. They're no good to me. I told you.

**NYSSA**

Something's upset her.

**TURLOUGH**

Don't get involved.

**YOANNA**

(CALLING) Excuse me. Please.

**TURLOUGH**

Sorry, we can't help.

**YOANNA**

(APPROACHING) Please. I'm trying to explain to this man and he doesn't understand.

**NYSSA**

We don't really live round here, you see.

**YOANNA**

Well, neither does he. That's the problem. I simply want a charm to ward off snakes.

**TURLOUGH**

Snakes! Are there snakes round here?

**YOANNA**

Oh God, are there? Round here too? It's bad enough having one in your head.

**23. EXT. ABOARD THE TUK-TUK**

(FX: CHUGGING THROUGH BUSY TRAFFIC)

**TEGAN**

(VERY HAPPY) The city really buzzes at night. Maybe we should go out to celebrate.

**DOCTOR**

Why not. I'm really glad, you know, Tegan, that you're better.

**TEGAN**

Me too.

**DOCTOR**

And the others will be pleased. Nyssa was really worried.

**TEGAN**

I know she was.

**DOCTOR**

She was scared you had too weak a constitution to pull through.

**TEGAN**

She said what?

**DOCTOR**

Oh, she meant well. She underestimates humans. You know what the upper classes are like.

(BEAT)

**TEGAN**

I can't believe she said that. Not even Turlough would say that... not now. But Nyssa? She's my friend.

**DOCTOR**

Of course she is. Don't worry about it. (TO DRIVER) Anywhere here, thanks.

(FX: TUK-TUK SLOWS)

**TEGAN**

This isn't the park.

**DOCTOR**

I've got a little business to deal with.

(FX: TUK-TUK STOPS)

**TEGAN**

Sundown Studios. Isn't that the tv channel on the advert?

**DOCTOR**

Yes, it is. The park's just along there.

**TEGAN**

Looks like this place is closing down. The removal men are in.

**DOCTOR**

You go on ahead and find the others. I won't be long.

**TEGAN**

Oh. Okay, but what about...

**DOCTOR**

(FORCEFUL) Hurry along, Tegan. The others will be waiting

**TEGAN**

(TAKEN ABACK) Yeah... right. Well, don't be long.

**DOCTOR**

Thank you, driver. Here. Keep the change.

**DRIVER**

Not enough, boss.

**DOCTOR**

(SHARP) More? Soon my friend, you'll realise you should be paying me.

**DRIVER**

Fifty more.

**DOCTOR**

Insolent wretch. Tell me, did you ever dream about something like this?

(FX: PULLS BACK HIS SLEEVE. MARA STING)

**DRIVER**

(SCREAMS AND WHIMPERS.)

(FX: SNAKE HISSES)

**DOCTOR**

I thought not. Something to tell your wastrel family about. Happy New Year.

**DRIVER**

(GOES ON WHIMPERING.)

**24. EXT. CITY PARK**

**NYSSA**

When did you start imagining the snake?

**YOANNA**

It must be imagining, mustn't it? I mean, snakes don't really live in people's heads.

**NYSSA**

(CAUTIOUS) Not usually, no.

**TURLOUGH**

I bought some water. Here's your change.

**YOANNA**

Thank you. (SIPS) Oh, yes, that's better. I'm Yoanna, by the way. Yoanna Rayluss.

**NYSSA**

Hello. I'm Nyssa and this is Turlough.

**TURLOUGH**

Hello.

**YOANNA**

It's just that it won't seem to shift... this image of the serpent. It's like a bad dream coiling in and out of my thoughts, and I'm not even asleep. I took a couple of azulin, but it made no difference.

**TURLOUGH**

So you thought buying some charms might help the dreams.

**YOANNA**

Well... yes. But the silly man didn't understand. He kept offering me good luck *gris-gris*<sup>1</sup>. Well, that's not right, is it? I mean, what good would a bag of old stones and bones and grave dirt be? That's just silly.

**TEGAN**

(ARRIVING) Hello, you two.

**NYSSA**

Tegan!

**TEGAN**

Am I relieved to find you. I thought you'd have gone.

---

<sup>1</sup>

**NYSSA**

How was the consultant?

**TEGAN**

We-e-ell...

**TURLOUGH**

Well?

**TEGAN**

It was fine. He says I'm clear! It's all over. No after-effects!

**NYSSA**

Oh Tegan, that's wonderful! After all that. I'm so glad.

(THEY HUG)

**TURLOUGH**

Me too. Well done, Tegan.

**TEGAN**

Thanks. Tell you all about it later. I feel like celebrating.

**TURLOUGH**

Where's the Doctor?

**TEGAN**

Oh, he stopped somewhere on business or something. He'll be along in a minute. He was being a bit cagey though. There's a lot of strange things and people round here.

**YOANNA**

Ahem.

**NYSSA**

Oh, I'm sorry. Yoanna, this is our friend, Tegan.

**TEGAN**

Hi.

**YOANNA**

Pleased to meet you. Glad to hear your good news.

**TEGAN**

Thanks. I'm a lot better. No more bad dreams.

**YOANNA**

Dreams?

**NYSSA**

Tegan, I think we should be going.

**YOANNA**

Seems to be catching. I've been having bad dreams too.

**TEGAN**

Really?

**YOANNA**

Oh, yes...

**TURLOUGH**

All of you... Don't move!

**TEGAN**

What? Oh... cripes.

**NYSSA**

It's a snake.

**YOANNA**

It's there. Get it way from me! It's come out of my dream!

**TEGAN**

It's come back. It's come back for me!

## **25. RICK'S STUDIO**

(FX: WORKMEN HEAVING FURNITURE ABOUT)

**BAALA**

Those crates too please, gents. Before the others.

**DOCTOR**

(AT A DISTANCE) You!

**BAALA**

I'm sorry, sir. The Studio's closed.

**DOCTOR**

(APPROACHING. MENACING) Where's Rick ausGarten?

**BAALA**

He's not here, sir. Can I help?

**DOCTOR**

Then bring him.

**BAALA**

Mr ausGarten is busy elsewhere, sir.

**DOCTOR**

What's going on here?

**BAALA**

If it's about the show tomorrow, I'm afraid it's "postponed." There were "safety" issues. They'll probably show an old film instead.

**DOCTOR**

Safety?

**BAALA**

(TO WORKMEN) Oh, no gents. Please don't touch the equipment. That has to be packed properly. Might as well finish off for tonight. Thanks.

(FX: WORKMEN LEAVE)

**DOCTOR**

Is this the thought materialisation machine?

**BAALA**

Sorry, sir. Please leave it alone.

**DOCTOR**

This crystal is larger scale, but barely adequate for my purpose.

**BAALA**

If you call Mr ausG tomorrow, I'm sure we can arrange a meeting.

**DOCTOR**

Can I be sure of that?

**BAALA**

Yes, sir. What was the name?

**DOCTOR**

Perhaps I should recruit you to the cause now.

**BAALA**

We are very busy.

**DOCTOR**

Oh, you've hardly started, young man. Tell me.

(FX: MARA STING)

What do you see in your darkest dreams?



(BEAT)

**BAALA**

(MATTER OF FACT) You have a snake on your arm, sir.

**DOCTOR**

It is the mark of the Mara!

(FX: SNAKE HISSES)

(BEAT)

**BAALA**

I'm sorry, sir. It's just a snake to me. And I never really have dreams. Though other people tell me theirs... at length sometimes. Sorry, I still didn't catch your name. There, your snake's settled down already. Must be sleepy.

**DOCTOR**

(DEFLATED) Tell Rick ausGarten that the future is waiting.

(FX: HE LEAVES)

**BAALA**

Thank you, sir. (CALLING) I'll tell him you called.

## 26. EXT. CITY PARK

**TURLOUGH**

Don't move. None of you. You'll frighten the snake!

**YOANNA**

It's searching.

**TEGAN**

It's looking for me. I can't just stand here.

**NYSSA**

It's fixed on Tegan.

**TEGAN**

I knew it.

**YOANNA**

Not on me?

**TURLOUGH**

(SLOW) The rest of you... back away slowly. No sudden moves.

**TEGAN**

Don't leave me.

**TURLOUGH**

Tegan... listen to me. There were always snakes round where I grew up. And if we ran into them, this is what we did. Okay? Very slowly... Slip off your jacket.

**TEGAN**

I can't.

**NYSSA**

Do it, Tegan... please.

**TURLOUGH**

That's right. Slip the jacket off... and bring it round to your front.

Yes, that's it. Slowly.

No, keep it raised, so that's what the snake watches. Good.

All right. Now... lower the jacket... until the hem touches the ground.

**YOANNA**

What's he doing?

**NYSSA**

The snake watches the jacket, not Tegan.

**TURLOUGH**

Good. Well done.

**TEGAN**

Now what?

**TURLOUGH**

Keep the jacket in the same place... but you step slowly backwards.

No, don't move the jacket.

That's it. As far as you can.

**TEGAN**

I can't reach any further. It's still watching.

**TURLOUGH**

Now... drop the jacket gently to floor. Go on.

(FX: TEGAN LETS THE JACKET GO)

And step slowly away.

**NYSSA**

It's still watching the jacket. Well done, Turlough.

**TURLOUGH**

That's okay.

**TEGAN**

Can we please get out of here? Ow!

(FX: DADDA DESAKA SHAKES HIS MARACAS)

**NYSSA**

It's you again.

**TEGAN**

Who's he?

**YOANNA**

Dadda Desaka. Are you following me?

**DADDA**

The snake won't harm you, maams. Not unless you scare her.

**YOANNA**

We scare *her*!

**TEGAN**

Don't touch it!

**DADDA**

(SCOOPING UP SNAKE) Come on, old lady. Easy does it. There we are. See? Nothing to be scared of.

**TEGAN**

That's a matter of opinion.

**YOANNA**

Dadda, is that *your* snake?

**DADDA**

Here, old lady. A mouse for you.

**TEGAN**

Ugh... he's got a bag full of mice. It's alive!

**YOANNA**

Have you brought livestock into the city?

**DADDA**

City folk's laws don't count. Laws can't touch me.

**YOANNA**

More's the pity.

**TURLOUGH**

Are you a snakedancer?

**DADDA**

Snakeherd, that's me.

**YOANNA**

Don't you bring that thing near me.

**DADDA**

Her eyes ain't so good. But she can taste the badness. Hmmm...  
(BEAT) No, nothing bad here.

**YOANNA**

I should hope not.

**DADDA**

And you, young maam? Hmm?

**NYSSA**

I'm not entirely sure this is ethical.

**DADDA**

Nothing there neither. How about the young fella? Hmm...

**TURLOUGH**

(NERVOUS) Is your snake poisonous?

**DADDA**

She squeezes. (BEAT) No, less bad than I thought. She tasted worse.

**TURLOUGH**

Thanks.

**DADDA**

And how's about the other maam?

**TEGAN**

Keep him away from me.

**NYSSA**

It's alright, Tegan.

**DADDA**

She only hurts the bad people. Ah... (STARTS CHANTING WORDLESSLY AGAIN)

**TEGAN**

What's he saying? Make him stop.

**DADDA**

(CHANTS FOR A COUPLE OF SECONDS, THEN)  
She tastes how there was a shadow in you.

**TEGAN**

None of your business. Leave me alone!

**DADDA**

She tastes the scars inside. But the shadow's gone.

**TURLOUGH**

Tegan's fine now, okay?

**DADDA**

Time would heal her, yes. But Time is scarred too.

**NYSSA**

Please leave her alone.

**DADDA**

(GROANS.)

**TEGAN**

What's he doing?

**YOANNA**

He's having a vision. I wouldn't touch.

**DADDA**

Where is the shadow now? I see it growing... a dark cloud,  
flooding the sky, eating the sun and the land and the sea. It  
will swallow Manussa whole!

Where is the shadow now? (GOES ON CHANTING SPELLS)

**TEGAN**

(SCARED) Nyssa?

**NYSSA**

It's all right. We can go now.

**TEGAN**

But I remember my dream.

**TURLOUGH**

You certainly pick your moments.

**TEGAN**

Where's the Doctor?

**YOANNA**

The Doctor? Who's that?

**TEGAN**

We have to find him. He could be in danger.

**NYSSA**

Turlough?

**TURLOUGH**

Okay. You head back to the TARDIS. I'll go and look for him.

(HE GOES)

**NYSSA**

Tegan, what happened in your dream?

**TEGAN**

The Doctor took the shadow of that... "thing" from me.

**NYSSA**

The Mara.

**TEGAN**

In my dream, he took it on himself. But what will it do to him?

**27. EXT. CITY PARK – A LITTLE WAY OFF.**

**TURLOUGH**

Where would he go to?

**DOCTOR**

Hello Turlough, my old friend.

**TURLOUGH**

Doctor? You're here. We were waiting. Nyssa and Tegan are just over there.

**DOCTOR**

Careful, careful.

**TURLOUGH**

What?

**DOCTOR**

You've always been good at secrets. Let's keep this to ourselves a bit longer, eh?

**TURLOUGH**

Keep what? Tegan's upset.

**DOCTOR**

Is she, the poor soul?

**TURLOUGH**

There was a bit of trouble with an old tribesman.

**DOCTOR**

Yes, I saw.

**TURLOUGH**

You've been watching?

**DOCTOR**

(AMUSED) Oh, I'm keeping well clear. And now you're in on it too, all the better. It's New Year, so let's have a bit of fun for a change.

**TURLOUGH**

Doctor, I don't understand what you're talking about.

**DOCTOR**

Oh, come on, Turlough. You know, you really have got very dull lately. Where's the old errant Turlough gone? Always in trouble, always on the make.

**TURLOUGH**

I'm still always in trouble.

**DOCTOR**

Then why don't you start to enjoy it, eh? Forget Nyssa and Tegan. Do you seriously think they can't look after themselves?

**TURLOUGH**

Well...

**DOCTOR**

That's better. Leave them to it for a while. Come on, Turlough. Boy's night out. What do you say?

**28. CITY PARK**

**DADDA**

(STILL BURBLES INCOMPREHENSIBLY.)

**NYSSA**

We can't leave him. He's in some sort of trance.

**YOANNA**

I'd better ring social services.

**TEGAN**

We could slip away before he wakes up. Come on.

**YOANNA**

I thought your friend was a doctor.

**NYSSA**

He is... but not the right type.

**TEGAN**

Are we going or not?

**NYSSA**

No. We have to stay.

**TEGAN**

You know, Nyssa, I've had it about up to here with your superior attitude.

**NYSSA**

I'm sorry?

**TEGAN**

You didn't think I'd get better, did you?

**NYSSA**

I don't know what you mean.

**YOANNA**

(WARNING) Both of you, look.

**TEGAN**

Little Miss Perfect, aren't you? While poor little Tegan suffers from a weak constitution.

**NYSSA**

I never said that.

**TEGAN**

That's not what I heard.

**YOANNA**

Oi, break it up, you two.



**TEGAN**

And you can stay out of this!

**YOANNA**

Will you please look!

(BEAT)

**NYSSA**

Where did they come from?

**TEGAN**

They've all carrying snakes.

**YOANNA**

The Dadda's brought his tribe with him. Snakeherders from the Naga<sup>2</sup> Hills.

**DADDA**

Friends, the meeting is dark and we're far from home. As we foresaw, a shadow has come to our world. This woman carried it first.

**TEGAN**

Now hang on.

**NYSSA**

Leave Tegan alone.

**DADDA**

But she has no guile. And now the Evil walks amongst us in another shape.

**YOANNA**

Excuse me. You can't all come into the city like this. Who gave you permission to bring indigenous animals off your reservation?

**DADDA**

Friends, we must drive out the shadow.

**NYSSA**

Do you see? He's not talking to the tribesmen.

**TEGAN**

It's the snakes he's talking to. Nyssa, don't let them near me.

**NYSSA**

I won't.

**DADDA**

Go now, my friends. Seek out the shadow in the dark.

**29. EXT. PARK – FAIRGROUND**

(FX: FAIRGROUND MUSIC – CAROUSEL ORGAN. PEOPLE MILLING. KER TING! BELL RINGS OUT)

**SHOWMAN**

Third strike wins the prize!

**TURLOUGH**

Well done, Doctor!

**DOCTOR**

(SURLY) Nice try, Showman.

**SHOWMAN**

Eh?

**DOCTOR**

Trying to fix my game... These weights are fixed.

**TURLOUGH**

Come on. You won the giant cuddly... whatever it is.

**DOCTOR**

...but I'm cleverer than you are!

**TURLOUGH**

Come away, Doctor.

**DOCTOR**

I'll remember you!

**TURLOUGH**

Get your prize and come on.

**DOCTOR**

You have it.

**TURLOUGH**

Don't sulk. You're supposed to enjoy yourself.

**DOCTOR**

Oh, I am, Turlough. Here, stand over here and cover me.

**TURLOUGH**

What are you doing? Don't touch that.

(FX: DOCTOR SAWS AT THE GUIDELINE WITH A KNIFE)

**DOCTOR**

(EFFORT) Just leaving him a token of my appreciation.

**TURLOUGH**

But that's holding the tent up.

(FX: TWANG)

**DOCTOR**

Done it! Whoops.

(FX: THE TENT CREAKS, CRUMPLES, COLLAPSES)

**SHOWMAN**

(INSIDE) Hey!

**TURLOUGH**

What did you do that for?

**DOCTOR**

Not as satisfying as I'd hoped. Come on.

(FX: MARCHES OFF)

**TURLOUGH**

Wait for me.

**DOCTOR**

Keep up, Turlough.

**TURLOUGH**

I'm trying to.

**DOCTOR**

Look at the crowds. Leaderless sheep, content in their ignorance. They want for nothing. They desire nothing. (DARKLY) They need stirring up.

**TURLOUGH**

(SARCASTIC) That's a bit subversive, even for you.

**DOCTOR**

Not my usual goody-goody self, you mean? Thank goodness for that. What about you, Turlough? What do you want?

**TURLOUGH**

Me? I thought this was our night on the town.

**DOCTOR**

What was always out of your reach?

**TURLOUGH**

I don't know. I suppose I've learned to accept things – a bit. You taught me that.

**DOCTOR**

(LAUGHS) Sanctimonious claptrack. You're as bad as Nyssa. But you'll soon learn. (SHOUTS) All of you!

**TURLOUGH**

(EMBARRASSED) Doctor...

**DOCTOR**

You'll all see! You wait 'til tomorrow night!

**TURLOUGH**

Quiet, Doctor.

**DOCTOR**

And the New Year! (AMUSED) Oh, look.

**TURLOUGH**

Now what?

**DOCTOR**

Snakes in the grass. Quick, back here. Out of sight. They're searching for me.

**TURLOUGH**

For you? The snakes?

**DOCTOR**

I was expected. So let's give them a run for their money. Is that the park controller's office, do you think?

**TURLOUGH**

Doctor. Where are you going? Hey! Come back!

**30. EXT. CITY PARK**

(FX: DISTANT FAIRGROUND MUSIC. YOANNA, A SHORT WAY OFF BLIPS HER MOBILE PHONE)

**YOANNA**

This is Officer Rayluss. Emergency desk please. Thanks.

(TEGAN AND NYSSA CLOSE UP, EARWIGGING)

**TEGAN**

She's an officer. Is she police?

**NYSSA**

She didn't say.

**TEGAN**

As long as she doesn't ask who we are.

**YOANNA**

I'm at the City Park. By the Scampus Gate. (BEAT. IRRITATED) Scram-pus. Come on, I've had a bad day. I've got a group of displaced snakeherds on the loose.

**NYSSA**

I don't think the tribesmen are a nuisance.

**TEGAN**

Speak for yourself.

**YOANNA**

Yes... snake-herds. And they've got snakes with them.

**DADDA**

The officer woman understands nothing. The evil must be sought out.

**YOANNA**

That's right. It's a three one five. Two cars at least. But no sirens or you'll start a panic. And bring some nets.

(FX: TANNOY CRACKLES ON)

**DOCTOR**

(ON TANNOY) Attention please. We are receiving reports of a number of snakes loose in the park.

**YOANNA**

What's he saying?

**DADDA**

It is Evil's voice. It speaks. (HE STARTS TO CHANT WORDLESSLY)

**NYSSA**

That's the Doctor!

**DOCTOR**

(TANNOY) These snakes are dangerous. Possibly venomous.

**YOANNA**

The absolute idiot!

**DOCTOR**

(TANNOY) If you see one, report it immediately to park staff. Stay calm. Don't panic.

**YOANNA**

He's crazy.

(FX: GENERAL AGITATION IN THE DISTANT CROWD. SCREAMS)

It's already started. People will be hurt!

**TEGAN**

That's not the Doctor, it's the... "monster" inside him. It's taking hold already!

**DADDA**

She cannot speak its name. But she knows its nature.

**TEGAN**

Too right, I do. We have to stop it!

**NYSSA**

Yoanna? Where's that announcement coming from?

**YOANNA**

Park Security Offices.

(FX: SHE BLIPS PHONE AGAIN)

**TEGAN**

That "thing" was bad enough in me. Think what it'll be like in the Doctor.

**NYSSA**

Tegan means the Mara.

**YOANNA**

The Mara? What's that? (TO PHONE) Hello? Get those cars here now! A three one nine's starting!

**DADDA**

Wait! My friends have found the Evil. Tall with yellow hair. Leaving the park by the Moonward Gate.

**NYSSA**

The Doctor?

(DISTANT POLICE SIRENS)

**TEGAN**

That's the way I came in.

**DADDA**

It is not alone. Your young friend attends it.

**NYSSA**

Turlough!

**TEGAN**

Turlough... Suppose he's been taken over too!

### **31. RICK'S STUDIO**

(FX: WOOD SPLINTERS. DOOR FORCED OPEN)

**DOCTOR**

Come on, Turlough. No one here. Let's have some light.

(FX: LIGHTS HUM ON)

**TURLOUGH**

It's not funny anymore, Doctor. I mean, the tent and the announcement, okay... but breaking and entering?

**DOCTOR**

Oh, I'm just warming up.

**TURLOUGH**

What have Sundown Studios ever done to you?

**DOCTOR**

I need this place. This is where it begins.

**TURLOUGH**

We should go. Tegan and Nyssa are still waiting.

**DOCTOR**

Nyssa? Oh, yes. The tedious little nun. I have a debt to settle there.

**TURLOUGH**

I'm going back.

**DOCTOR**

No, you're not. You're in my service now.

**TURLOUGH**

Your service? What's got into you? You've changed.

**DOCTOR**

Have I? Or have I just taken a turn for the better?

**TURLOUGH**

I don't think so.

**DOCTOR**

And so will you. Come here.

**TURLOUGH**

I'm leaving.

**DOCTOR**

Come here! It's time you saw the world through my eyes.

**TURLOUGH**

Maybe I don't want to.

**DOCTOR**

Here!

(FX: MARA STING)

**TURLOUGH**

What are you doing?

**DOCTOR**

All that darkness and richness. You've no idea what you're missing.

**TURLOUGH**

What have you done to your arm?

**DOCTOR**

Wealth and power, Vislor Turlough.

**TURLOUGH**

I don't know...

**DOCTOR**

It's yours for the taking.

(FX: SOMETHING CLATTERS NEARBY. THE SPELL BREAKS)

**TURLOUGH**

Someone's coming.

(FX: DOCTOR OPENS DOOR)

**DOCTOR**

In here... Oh no, you don't!

**TURLOUGH**

Ow!

**DOCTOR**

In here!

(FX: THEY SCUTTLE FOR COVER. CLOSING THE DOOR BEHIND THEM)



## **32. WAREHOUSE**

(FX: CAGED SONGBIRDS SINGING AND SQUAWKING)

**DOCTOR**

Well now...

**TURLOUGH**

Please let go of my arm. Don't think I don't appreciate the offer, but must you be so forceful? (THE DOCTOR RELEASES HIM)  
Thank you. What is this? Some sort of zoo?

**DOCTOR**

It certainly smells like it. Although the hutches suggest an experimental laboratory.

**TURLOUGH**

Must be on an industrial scale then. Ugh... look at this. Is it a mutation? It has no skin. How can it even exist?

(MOVING ALONG)

Or this one. Surely nothing can evolve like that. It's all feathers and eyes.

(MOVING ALONG)

And this one. Oh, no. Its legs are all wrong. Facing in opposite directions. It must be fighting itself all the time. There's a different creature in every hutch. No labels though, so no names either. Must go for miles.

**DOCTOR**

Here's an empty one. With a blanket inside.

(FX: HE GRABS TURLOUGH)

**TURLOUGH**

Ow! What are you doing?

**DOCTOR**

This'll do for you, Turlough.

**TURLOUGH**

(STRUGGLING) Get off!

**DOCTOR**

So I can keep an eye on you. In you go!

**TURLOUGH**

Ow!

(FX: THROWS TURLOUGH IN. HUTCH DOOR SLAMS. DOCTOR WALKS BRISKLY AWAY, BLIPPING HIS PHONE)

(RECEEDING INTO DISTANCE) Let me out! Let me out! Come back! Doctor!

**DOCTOR**

Come on... Kerrem? How's my list of intellectuals going? (BEAT) I want as many as you can get for tomorrow night. Top rate fees. Venue to be confirmed.

**RICK**

Don't move an inch.

(BEAT)

**DOCTOR**

I'll call you back.

(BLIPS OFF PHONE)

Mr ausGarten, I presume.

**RICK**

Are you Press or Safety Enforcement?

**DOCTOR**

Neither, as it happens. But I've come a long way to find you, Rick.

**RICK**

These are private premises. Now get out.

**DOCTOR**

Relax. Forget your problems.

**RICK**

What?

**DOCTOR**

This is your lucky day. From now on, you're working for me.

### **33. STREET**

**YOANNA**

How much further?

**TEGAN**

There it is. The Doctor said he had business there.

**YOANNA**

Sundown Studios? I was here this afternoon. It's Rick ausGarten's outfit.

**DADDA**

This place is marked with darkness.

**NYSSA**

There are certainly no lights on.

**YOANNA**

Well, of course there aren't. I closed the place down. Some people have no regard for public safety.

**DADDA**

Too late for that.

**YOANNA**

What are you doing here, Dadda? You're supposed to stay in the park.

**DADDA**

This Dadda is holy and wise and untroubled by sad city people's laws. I go where I like.

**TEGAN**

Hang on. This is the tuk-tuk we came in. Surely he can't still be waiting. (WALKS ACROSS) Hulloo. You brought us here this afternoon, remember? Is my friend still here? (BEAT) Hulloo?

THE DRIVER SHIVERS.

**YOANNA**

What's the matter with him?

**NYSSA**

He looks terrified. Are you alright?

**TEGAN**

Is the Doctor still here?

**DADDA**

My son, Happy New Year. Go home to your family.

**DRIVER**  
(SIGHS.)

(FX: TUK-TUK STARTS UP)

**NYSSA**  
Look out!

(FX: TUK-TUK DRIVES AWAY)

**YOANNA**  
Something upset him.

**TEGAN**  
The Doctor must still be here.

**DADDA**  
It's true. The Evil waits inside.

**TEGAN**  
That's my friend, you're talking about.

**NYSSA**  
He's my friend too. And Turlough. Please don't call them that.

**DADDA**  
Tegan came back from the dark. They can too.

**NYSSA**  
Right. So how do we get in?

**YOANNA**  
Easy. As a Safety Enforcement Officer, I can invoke special powers and enter that building any time.

### **34. WAREHOUSE**

(FX: AS BEFORE)

**RICK**

You came here to fund my project? Don't make me laugh.

**DOCTOR**

Your reputation is spreading, Rick. It is all right to call you that, I hope.

**RICK**

Oh, I'm public property. Rick ausGarten, celebrity scientist.

**DOCTOR**

Thank you.

**RICK**

(SOFTENING) Yeah, well, it helps to have a bit of razzamatazz thrown in. I mean, creating matter from pure thought? It ain't exactly the main aim of crystal research...

**DOCTOR**

... but it still makes science more accessible to the public.

**RICK**

Everyone loves a show.

**DOCTOR**

And none of these creatures existed before you created them? They all come from the 4D crystals?

**RICK**

Bit of a by-product really. You start projecting the image of a flower... shape, texture, scent... but then these critters turn up too. Birds, animals. I thought we'd got that problem sorted until today.

**DOCTOR**

Pure thought is rarely pure. The subconscious always seeps through.

**RICK**

See this one? Two heads with plumage like water? Sings duets with itself. Real class, that is.

**DOCTOR**

Fascinating.

**RICK**

And along here... this is our snake tank.

**DOCTOR**

Oh, yes.

**RICK**

We get more of them than anything – all colours and shapes. Funny that. They're agitated tonight. Normally they sleep all day.

**DOCTOR**

But are they evolution or art?

**RICK**

Ooh, too deep for me, Doctor. So... are you rescuing me or what? Go on. Make me an offer.

**DOCTOR**

You need funding. I can provide that. And influence too.

**RICK**

I like it. Tell me more.

**DOCTOR**

You'll have a team of A-list celebrities to endorse tomorrow night's premiere.

**RICK**

Tomorrow? You'll be lucky. They closed me down, remember?

**DOCTOR**

It won't be a problem.

**RICK**

So what's the catch?

**DOCTOR**

(IRRITATED) Catch?

**RICK**

Everyone wants something. You might as well tell me. I'll only end up worrying.

**DOCTOR**

I'll start with Manussa.

**RICK**

Eh? You want the world? Don't we all? Here, what are doing?

(FX: DOCTOR PICKS UP A METAL ROD)

**DOCTOR**

Your snakes. I like their company.

**RICK**

Put that down. Careful, you idiot!

**DOCTOR**

And they like me.

(FX: HE SMASHES THE GLASS TANK)

**RICK**

Heaven wept! The snakes! Baala! Baala!! They're getting out!

(FX: DOCTOR GRABS HIM)

Oi! Get off! What's your game?!!

**DOCTOR**

You should rejoice, Rick ausGarten. You let me in. Without you, I'd be nothing!

**RICK**

Who are you?

(FX: MARA STING)

**DOCTOR**

I am the Mara. The rightful heir to the world of chaos!

**END OF PART 2.**

**PART 3.**

**34. WAREHOUSE**

(FX: THE DOCTOR SMASHES THE GLASS SNAKE TANK)

**RICK**

Heaven wept! The snakes! Baala! Baala! They're getting out!  
Call the SEs!

(FX: DOCTOR GRABS HIM)

Agh! Get off me! Let me go!

**DOCTOR**

You should rejoice, Rick ausGarten. You let me in. Without you,  
I'd be nothing!

**RICK**

Who are you?

(FX: MARA STING)

**DOCTOR**

I am the Mara. The rightful heir to the world of chaos!

**35. WAREHOUSE**

**BAALA**

Who are you? What are you doing in there?

**TURLOUGH**

Let me out of this thing.

**BAALA**

That's my blanket. I sleep there.

**TURLOUGH**

In a hutch?

**BAALA**

I'm Baalaka. Baala for short. Give my blanket back

**TURLOUGH**

You're welcome to it. Just let me out.

**BAALA**

Are you a fan of Mr ausGarten?

**TURLOUGH**

No. My name's Turlough. The Doctor brought me in.

**BAALA**

Is he your friend? He's talking to Mr ausG now. I saw them.



**TURLOUGH**

Are you letting me out or not?

**BAALA**

You can't steal the animals. They won't exist away from here.

**TURLOUGH**

I don't want to steal them.

**BAALA**

No?

**TURLOUGH**

No.

**BAALA**

Your friend's not natural. He scares me.

**TURLOUGH**

Not sure if he was ever "natural." Not by other people's standards. Please open this door.

**BAALA**

You'll leave my blanket.

**TURLOUGH**

Yes.

(FX: BAALA UNDOES THE LOCK. TURLOUGH SCRAMBLES OUT)

At last. Thank you.

**BAALA**

You're scared of him too.

**TURLOUGH**

Scared?

**BAALA**

You really fear him.

**TURLOUGH**

That's crazy. I'm not scared of him. He's the Doctor.

**RICK**

(CRIES OUT IN THE DISTANCE. HE'S IN AGONY.)

**BAALA**

Mr ausGarten!

**TURLOUGH**

Just don't expect me to stay!

(FX: HE RUNS)

**BAALA**

Wait! Come back!

### **36. STUDIO**

(FX: RICK'S DISTANT SCREAM AGAIN)

**NYSSA**

What was that?

**TEGAN**

Someone screamed. Through there.

**YOANNA**

I knew we should have waited for back-up.

**TEGAN**

You were the one who was all gung-ho about breaking in.

**YOANNA**

The door was already broken.

**NYSSA**

Please be quiet, both of you.

**DADDA**

Nyssa is right. The Evil is nearby.

**NYSSA**

That cry came from through here.

(FX: SHE PUSHES THE DOOR)

**TEGAN**

Careful.

(FX: DOOR BANGS AS TURLOUGH BARRELS THROUGH)

**NYSSA**

Ow!

**TEGAN**

Turlough!

**TURLOUGH**

(BREATHLESS) Tegan... Nyssa... We have to get out!

**NYSSA**

Where's the Doctor? Did you find him?

**TURLOUGH**

It's not safe in here. Get out!

**TEGAN**

Where is he?

**YOANNA**

Has someone been hurt? We heard a scream.

**TURLOUGH**

Please... You don't understand. It's the Doctor...

**NYSSA**

What about him? Is he hurt?

**TURLOUGH**

I don't know. He's different. He's gone crazy.

**TEGAN**

Crazy? Oh no.

**TURLOUGH**

It's not him. As if he's... like someone else!

**DADDA**

The Evil moves amongst us. First it slides, then it walks.

**TURLOUGH**

We have to get out!

**YOANNA**

I agree. Everyone out now. Clear the place until the Safety Officers arrive. And don't touch anything.

**NYSSA**

Don't move.

**YOANNA**

What?

**NYSSA**

There's a snake by the door. Keep back!

**TEGAN**

Oh, no!

**DADDA**

(STARTS TO BURBLE.)

(FX: SHAKES HIS MARACAS)

**TURLOUGH**

Back away...

**NYSSA**

And another behind you!

**TEGAN**

They're all over the place...

**YOANNA**

Dadda? Are these yours?

**DADDA**

No, not these. These are shadows cast by the darkness itself.

**TURLOUGH**

Keep back!

(FX: DADDA RUMMAGES IN HIS BAG)

**DADDA**

But even shade snakes are hungry.

**TEGAN**

You're using your mice?

(FX: MICE PEEP)

**DADDA**

They know their place. Keep them busy, little ones.

**TURLOUGH**

That's clever.

(FX: SNAKE HISSES)

**TEGAN**

That's horrible.

**NYSSA**

Tegan, we must find the Doctor.

**TURLOUGH**

Before he finds us?

(FX: WAREHOUSE DOOR CLUNKS OPEN)

Look out!

**(NOTE: YOU MAY WANT TO SPLIT THIS LONG SCENE HERE)**

**RICK**

Mrs Rayluss? Still checking up on me, are you?

**YOANNA**

It's my job, Mr ausGarten. You're keeping dangerous livestock on these premises. You didn't inform me of that.

**TEGAN**

It's him. He was on the adverts...

**RICK**

A few research specimens got loose. That's all. They won't hurt if you leave them alone.

**YOANNA**

They're not like any snakes I've ever seen.

**RICK**

Then put that in your report too. Now get out... and take this old witch doctor with you. I've had enough of him round here.

**DADDA**

Your words are lies. The dark snake has already bitten you.

**RICK**

I said get out!

**NYSSA**

Who was that screaming?

**TURLOUGH**

Nyssa, just come away.

**RICK**

It's a tv show. You'll have to tune in to find out.

**YOANNA**

Your show's been cancelled.

**RICK**

News to me.

**YOANNA**

What else are you hiding?

**TEGAN**

And where's the Doctor? I know he's here.

(FX: DOOR CLATTERS AGAIN)

**DOCTOR**

(SURLY) I'm here, Tegan.

**NYSSA**

Doctor!

**YOANNA**

(MORTIFIED) Oh, my lord. It's him..

**DADDA**

The Evil lives. Our days turn to night.

**YOANNA**

It's him. I saw him. The fair-haired man standing in the dark heart of the rose.

**TURLOUGH**

Don't look at his eyes.

**DOCTOR**

(AMUSED) I knew you'd follow me. Ever angry Tegan, Turlough the truculent youth and Saint Nyssa the Interminably Reproachful.

**NYSSA**

What's happened to you?

**DOCTOR**

One guess, little nun.

**TEGAN**

Oh, Doctor... no. Is that what you took away from me?

(FX: DISTANT POLICE SIRENS APPROACHING)

**DOCTOR**

Just as well. It's a miracle anything survives trapped in your tiny mind. But with me, the possibilities are endless!

**TEGAN**

Not if I stop you first!

**NYSSA**

Tegan?

**TEGAN**

Take a look in my mirror!

**DOCTOR**

(SNARLS.)

**TEGAN**

You can't, can you? You can't look at yourself!

**DOCTOR**

Give me that! (HE LUNGES)

**TEGAN**

(CRIES OUT.)

(FX: THE GLASS SMASHES ON THE FLOOR)

**DOCTOR**

And now you're all in the Mara's power!

(FX: MAIN DOOR CRASHES OPEN. A SQUAD OF SAFETY POLICE THUNDER IN)

**TURLOUGH**

It's the police.

**YOANNA**

At last!

**POLICEMAN**

Safety Enforcement! No-one move!

**YOANNA**

About time too!

**POLICEMAN**

That one!

(FX: POLICE GRAB TURLOUGH)

**TURLOUGH**

Me! Ow! Get off me!

**POLICEMAN**

And that one!

**TEGAN**

The Doctor?

**DOCTOR**

(CHUCKLES AS POLICE GRAB HIM.)

**NYSSA**

Locking up the Doctor won't help.

**POLICEMAN**

You're both under arrest for public disturbances at Scrampus Park this afternoon.

**TURLOUGH**

But I didn't do anything!

**POLICEMAN**

Take them away.

**YOANNA**

I'll follow you, sergeant. I need a warrant to close these studios permanently.

(FX: POLICE HURRY THEIR PRISONERS OUT)

Where's ausGarten gone?

**NYSSA**

I don't know. He was here just now.

**DADDA**

Evil cannot be subdued so easily. It will spread like dark fire through the tinder.

**YOANNA**

With due respect, Dadda, isn't "Evil" going a bit far?

**TEGAN**

Not in this case, it's not. The Doctor's possessed by that... that "thing."

**NYSSA**

The Mara.

**TEGAN**

(A SHIVER DOWN HER SPINE)... that word.

**DADDA**

Yoanna, you saw him in your mind's eye.

**YOANNA**

No. No, that's just fantasy. The Doctor's disturbed. That's why I'm taking him in for questioning. At least let's understand him before we condemn him as a maniac.

### **37. WAREHOUSE**

**RICK**

Baala? You in there? (BEAT) Come on. Out you come.

**BAALA**

(MUFFLED UNDER BLANKET) Go away.

**RICK**

Now where could Baalaka be? Is he under the blanket? Shall we look, children?

**BAALA**

There are snakes out there.

(FX: RICK RATTLES BAALA'S HUTCH DOOR)



**RICK**

Come on! There's work needs doing.

(FX: BAALA PUSHES THE BLANKET BACK)

**BAALA**

Has he gone, that man? The scary one.

**RICK**

The Doc?

**BAALA**

He had a friend too. He wasn't cruel. He knew about being scared.

**RICK**

The SEs were here. They took them away for a basting, the idiots.

**BAALA**

Mr ausG... (WEEPING) I thought you were hurt. Or worse.

**RICK**

Me? Baala, I've never felt better. We've got ourselves a backer. The Doctor's coughing up. The *Dreamarama* show's on again.

**BAALA**

(FIGHTING TEARS) Again?

**RICK**

With proper funding this time. No more takeaway noodle buckets for us.

**BAALA**

But the Doctor's been locked up – you just said. And half the equipment's gone.

**RICK**

Then we get it back. Come on. Out you come.

(FX: BAALA OPENS THE DOOR AND SLIDES HIMSELF OUT)

That's it. We've got one day to get back on track. So let's burn the tyres. (BEAT) What are you staring at?

**BAALA**

That mark on your arm. The snake.

(FX: MARA STING)

It's the same mark the Doctor had.

**38. EXT. STREET**

(FX: PASSING TRAFFIC, TUK-TUKS etc)

**TEGAN**

It's cold. What are we hanging about here for? Shouldn't we try and see the Doctor?

**NYSSA**

Did you notice the equipment in the studio?

**TEGAN**

Don't you care? It's my fault, Nyssa. He's in that state because of me. (BEAT) Sorry. You're trying to keep me busy, aren't you?

**NYSSA**

If it helps. The studio's set up to create living matter from thought energy...

**TEGAN**

I'd gathered that.

**NYSSA**

... using crystal technology.

**TEGAN**

Must be state of the art round here. Dr Kerrem was using that for my brain scan. He was a nice man when we met him, maybe he could help.

**NYSSA**

Well, I took a look at the crystals in the studio equipment.

**TEGAN**

So?

**NYSSA**

The crystals are blue – industrially grown sapphires. They're bigger versions of the Little Mind's Eye that the Doctor was using to reach into your subconscious.

**TEGAN**

(SCARED) Nyssa... why didn't I make that connection? Jeez, I could kick myself. You mean they're smaller versions of the Great Mind's Eye – the crystal that snake "thing" will use one day to become real.

**NYSSA**

I'm sorry.

**TEGAN**

But that's years in the future... centuries yet, isn't it?

**NYSSA**

I hope so, Tegan. For all our sakes, I hope that's right.

### **39. POLICE OBSERVATION ROOM**

**POLICEMAN**

(ON INTERCOM) Your expert's arrived.

**YOANNA**

Send him in.

(FX: LOCK CLUNKS AND DOOR OPENS)

**KERREM**

Yoanna. A pleasure to see you as always.

**YOANNA**

Good to see you, Dr Kerrem. I needed an independent expert. Thank goodness you were in the building.

**KERREM**

Right. And which is the subject in question?

**YOANNA**

The taller fair-haired man at the back of the cell.

**KERREM**

(DARKLY) Ah, yes... (PICKING UP AGAIN) And you'd like to me to give him a remote brain scan?

**YOANNA**

Please.

**KERREM**

Well, he seems docile enough. What's he in for?

**YOANNA**

Breaking and entering; causing a public disturbance. And he had a bit of a run-in, if that's the right word, with a vagrant tribesman – a mystic. One "Dadda Desaka" from the Naga Hill tribes.

**KERREM**

A mystic? One of the Untouchables?

**YOANNA**

More's the pity. Otherwise I'd haul him in too. The Dadda was insisting that our subject here is "The Evil One" incarnate.

**KERREM**

Superstitious hogwash.

**YOANNA**

I know... except... well, I'm inclined to agree. Maybe not Evil, not as such, but there's something nasty and disturbing about him. He led us quite a dance this afternoon, causing chaos all over the city. And he has this obsession with snakes.

**KERREM**

That hardly warrants a scan, you know.

**YOANNA**

Yes, but also... (AWKWARD) well, I do try to be rational. It's my job. Safety issues and everything. But... erm...

**KERREM**

Hmm? Something else?

**YOANNA**

Well... oh no, never mind. I'm being silly. I just imagined it.

**KERREM**

What about the younger subject? He looks scared. If the Doctor's such a villain, should they both be in the same cell?

**YOANNA**

How did you know he's a Doctor? We don't even have a name.

(BEAT)

**KERREM**

The erm... arrest report. I saw it on my way in.

#### **40. POLICE CELL**

**TURLOUGH**

They're bound to be watching.

**DOCTOR**

(BORED) Very probably.

(BEAT)

**TURLOUGH**

Doctor?

**DOCTOR**

The Doctor is no longer available, I'm delighted to say.

**TURLOUGH**

Please... try and remember who you are... What about Nyssa and Tegan? And everything we've been through together? You saved me from public school, and the Black Guardian. I was a wreck and I owe you my life. Don't you remember Helheim and the Cractids? Purity Bay, when the Takers came? (BEAT) And what about your home?

**DOCTOR**

None of your business.

**TURLOUGH**

Your TARDIS. You can't lose that. It's part of you. We could get you away from here. (BEAT) Doctor?

(BEAT)

**DOCTOR**

(SCARED, TINY) Turlough? Is that you?

**TURLOUGH**

Yes, I'm here.

**DOCTOR**

What's happening to me? I can't remember anymore. Am I a monster now? People seem to think I'm a monster.

**TURLOUGH**

No. No, Doctor. Of course you're not.

**DOCTOR**

Then who am I? Because I've no idea, you see. None at all.

**TURLOUGH**

You're the Doctor.

**DOCTOR**

Ugh... my head. It's kicking and rolling in there like an unborn child. It'll crack open like an egg!

**TURLOUGH**

We have to get you help! Help! Please! He's not well!

**DOCTOR**

(CALMING) It's hot in here, isn't it? Please... I need to... help me off with my coat.

**TURLOUGH**

Okay. Come on then. That's it.

(BEAT)

**DOCTOR**

What is it? Don't look at me like that... what did you say your name was?

**TURLOUGH**

(QUIET DESPAIR) Doctor... Where will we be without you?

(BEAT)

**DOCTOR**

(STARTS TO LAUGH) You should see your face.

**TURLOUGH**

What?

**DOCTOR**

All that concern. It was just a joke, Turlough, old chum! I'm stronger than I ever was! (LAUGHS)

**TURLOUGH**

I should have known.

**DOCTOR**

Don't worry. I still want your help. I've got all sorts of tricks up my sleeve. Look!

(FX: MARA STING)

**TURLOUGH**

No!

**DOCTOR**

It's yours, Turlough. The Mark of the Mara. Take it!

**TURLOUGH**

It's moving! Keep it away from me!

(FX: SNAKE HISSES)

Let me out of here!

(FX: BANGS ON DOOR)

Get me out! Let me out! Please! Let me go! Let me out! Get me out of here! Etc...

**DOCTOR**

(OVER **TURLOUGH**) Excuse me while I make a quick call.

(FX: TAPS NUMBER ONTO PHONE)

**41. POLICE OBSERVATION ROOM**

**YOANNA**

He's got a snake in there! Get the boy out!

**POLICEMAN**

(INTERCOM) On it now.

**YOANNA**

I thought they'd been searched. How's he got a snake with him?  
And a phone!

(FX: KERREM'S PHONE RINGS)

**KERREM**

Hello? Yes... yes. Of course.

**YOANNA**

He called you! From the cell. You know him!

**KERREM**

Out of my way!

(FX: HE GRABS **YOANNA** AND FLINGS HER ASIDE.)

**YOANNA**

*Aaaargh! No!*

(FX: A CHAIR CLATTERS TO THE FLOOR. A MUFFLED ALARM SOUNDS  
OUTSIDE. **KERREM** OPENS THE DOOR. THE ALARM GETS LOUDER.)

**42. CORRIDOR**

(FX: ALARM SOUNDING

A **POLICEMAN** FURTHER UP THE CORRIDOR YELLS IN PAIN.

FURNITURE CRASHES)

**DOCTOR**

(FAR END OF CORRIDOR) Kerrem!

**KERREM**

Doctor! Down here!

**DOCTOR**

(APPROACHING) That is no longer my name. Get me out this place!

**POLICEMAN 2**

(FAR END OF CORRIDOR) Hey!

(FX: HE RUNS TOWARDS US.

A LEFT HOOK FLOORS HIM)

**KERREM**

This way!

(FX: THE DOCTOR AND KERREM BARREL THROUGH A DOOR AND CLATTER  
DOWN A FIRE ESCAPE)

**DOCTOR**

Where's your car?

**KERREM**

I came by taxi.

**DOCTOR**

Then we'll take a police vehicle. That one. The blue one.



### **43. POLICE CELL**

(FX: ALARM STILL SOUNDING OUTSIDE)

(TURLOUGH AND YOANNA DISTRESSED AND URGENT)

#### **TURLOUGH**

The Doctor attacked me. It looks like he attacked you too.

#### **YOANNA**

That was Dr Kerrem. One of our "regular" experts. I mean, who can you trust these days? Where did the Doctor get that snake from?

#### **TURLOUGH**

I hoped you'd tell me. It was on his arm... like a tattoo, and then it came alive.

#### **YOANNA**

(RECOILING) It's not still here!

#### **TURLOUGH**

No. No, he took it with him.

#### **YOANNA**

I knew he was trouble.

(FX: ALARM STOPS)

Oh, that's better. I couldn't hear myself think.

#### **TURLOUGH**

But he's not like this... not normally... not trouble, I mean.

#### **YOANNA**

The Dadda thought he was. He said the Doctor was possessed by... what did he call it?

#### **TURLOUGH**

The Mara. Some sort of evil spirit.

#### **YOANNA**

That'll look good in my report.

#### **TURLOUGH**

But what did you say?

#### **YOANNA**

When?

**TURLOUGH**

Earlier. At the studio. You said you recognised the Doctor. The man at the heart of the rose?

**YOANNA**

Excuse me. Who's questioning whom here?

**TURLOUGH**

Look. I'm new to all this. It's Tegan and Nyssa who really know.

**YOANNA**

Your friends?

**TURLOUGH**

Yes. Whatever he's doing now, the Doctor needs help.

**YOANNA**

This interview is off the record, you know... my reputation's tarnished enough. And frankly, it's obvious you're not to blame.

**TURLOUGH**

Thanks.

**YOANNA**

So... do you know where to find your friends?

**TURLOUGH**

I think so.

**YOANNA**

And you'd bring them to me?

**TURLOUGH**

If you'll agree to help the Doctor.

(BEAT)

**YOANNA**

A fine New Year this is turning out to be. All right. Bring them here. You're free to go.

#### **44. POLICE CAR/MARKET**

(FX: CAR MOTOR TURNING OVER. HORN SOUNDS)

**DOCTOR**

Get this car moving, Kerrem.

**KERREM**

Blasted New Year shoppers. It'd be quicker to walk. And safer to lose this police car.

**DOCTOR**

A shame. That irony is amusing, don't you think?.

(FX: THEY OPEN THE CAR DOORS AND CLAMBER OUT. MARKET SOUNDS ALL ROUND THEM)

**KERREM**

Through here.

(FX: THEY PUSH THROUGH THE CROWDS)

**DOCTOR**

What about my list? The greatest intellects Manussa can offer.

**KERREM**

Too clever by half, most of them.

**DOCTOR**

And so? Who have you got?

**KERREM**

No one.

**DOCTOR**

What do you mean... no one?

(FX: DISTANT POLICE SIREN)

**KERREM**

I've a list as long as your arm. My secretary spent the day calling them. But no one's interested. They're all suddenly busy, or away for the holiday.

**DOCTOR**

At every turn: incompetence, bureaucracy. Which way is ausGarten's Studio?

**KERREM**

Not far. At the top end of the market.

**DOCTOR**

The Mara will be born today. The New Age will begin. Even if I do everything myself! ... Wait.

**KERREM**

What's the matter?

**DOCTOR**

(SLAPPING POCKETS) The key. The key to the Doctor's ship. It's missing. Turlough!

**45. PARK**

NYSSA AND TEGAN WALKING. BOTH EXHAUSTED.

**NYSSA**

I knew we should have tried the Police Station.

**TEGAN**

The TARDIS must be round here somewhere. It all looks different after dark.

**NYSSA**

Assuming the Doctor or Turlough do actually come back.

**TEGAN**

Where else would they go? They're bound to have escaped by now.

**NYSSA**

It depends what state the Doctor's in.

(BEAT)

**TEGAN**

Look! There you are. The TARDIS. I told you.

**NYSSA**

But what's happened to it?

**TEGAN**

Garlands and chains? Someone's been busy. What's that all about?

**DADDA**

Do not touch the casket. It carried the Evil here.

**NYSSA**

Dadda Desaka.

**TEGAN**

Are you waiting for us?

**DADDA**

When the Evil returns, I shall challenge it and drive it out.

**NYSSA**

I'm not sure that's a good idea.

**DADDA**

That is the path I tread to find Parami.

**TEGAN**

But you can't fight it like that. The Doctor took that... "thing" out of me. He was protecting me. If you fight it, you'll hurt him.

**DADDA**

Child, Evil cannot be defeated until it is named.

**TEGAN**

No... I can't say that w-word. Don't make me. It's horrible.

**DADDA**

Name your enemy.

**TEGAN**

I can't even name the Doctor!

**NYSSA**

It's hard for her. Please leave her alone.

**DOCTOR**

(FAR OFF) Nyssa? Tegan?

**DADDA**

Too late. The Evil itself comes.

**DOCTOR**

(APPROACHING. VERY FIERCE) Where's the thief? Where's Turlough?!

**NYSSA**

Doctor?

**TEGAN**

I'm sorry, Doctor. I'm sorry for what I caused.

**DOCTOR**

The Doctor is dead!

**TEGAN**

No! No, you're not!

**DOCTOR**

Where's Turlough? Tell me? He stole the key!

**NYSSA**

He can't get into the TARDIS!

**DADDA**

Stand aside, Demon. I bar your way.

**DOCTOR**

Old man, you are nothing. I am the Mara...

**TEGAN**

No!

**DOCTOR**

...and I will crush your soul and feed it to the ghosts that hunger in the dark beyond the world!

**DADDA**

The darkness where you belong!

**DOCTOR**

Stand aside!

**DADDA**

The way is barred. Choose your weapon.

**DOCTOR**

(LAUGHS.)

**NYSSA**

Please be careful!

**TEGAN**

The old man can't fight the Doctor.

**DOCTOR**

I'll tear you apart with my bare hands!

(FX: **DADDA** SWINGS HIS STAFF SEVERAL TIMES.

**THE DOCTOR** DUCKS AND THEN CATCHES THE STAFF WITH A SNARL.

**DADDA** CRIES OUT)

**NYSSA**

No, Doctor!

**DOCTOR**

Old fool! You didn't expect to beat me, did you?

**DADDA**  
GROANS

**TEGAN**  
There go his mice... running all over.

**NYSSA**  
And his snake.

**TURLOUGH**  
(ARRIVES, BREATHLESS) Nyssa, Tegan...

**NYSSA**  
Turlough! You're safe.

**TURLOUGH**  
I've got the key.

**DOCTOR**  
Serve the Mara well, old fool.

(FX: MARA STING.

**TURLOUGH** FITS THE KEY IN THE LOCK AND OPENS THE TARDIS DOOR)

**TURLOUGH**  
Quick. Get in the TARDIS. While he's busy.

**TEGAN**  
But the old man...

**TURLOUGH**  
Just get inside.

**DOCTOR**  
Take the Mark of the Snake!

**DADDA**  
CRIES OUT WEAKLY.

**DOCTOR**  
Turlough? Is that you? Stop!

(FX: TARDIS DOOR SLAMS)

Turlough! Let me in!

(FX: HAMMERS ON THE DOOR)

Let me into the ship!

#### **46. TARDIS CONTROL ROOM**

(FX: MUFFLED BANGING ON THE DOOR)

**TEGAN**

That poor old man...

**TURLOUGH**

Don't let the Doctor in!

(FX: BANGING STOPS)

**TEGAN**

We could get him away from Manussa.

(FX: SCANNER SWITCHES ON)

**NYSSA**

The Mara would take us over too. And then head out into the Universe.

**TURLOUGH**

There must be a way to stop it...

**NYSSA**

The Dadda would have known. But there must be information in the TARDIS. What about the library?

**TEGAN**

Hang on... the Doctor's making a call.

**TURLOUGH**

I can't tell what he's saying.

#### **47. PARK**

**DOCTOR**

(ON PHONE) ausGarten? Set up your dream forming machines. I've a job for them... Yes, now! I'll be with you shortly. Let's see how well they really work.

(FX: BLIPS OFF PHONE)

**DADDA**

Time turns on this point. The paths change. The old Destiny falters and dies. Now the Mara spins the future.

**DOCTOR**

Come on, old man. We have work to do.



#### **48. TARDIS LIBRARY**

**TURLOUGH**

I didn't know the TARDIS's library was quite so vast. It would help if we knew what we were looking for.

**TEGAN**

None of these books has been taken down for years.

**NYSSA**

Look for anything to do with demons and legends.

**TURLOUGH**

It's not exactly scientific, is it? We'd be better off if there was a fantasy section.

**TEGAN**

Well, what about this? On the desk. *An Universal Historie of Fable and Demonology – written at the Ende of Alle Time.*

**NYSSA**

Can I see?

**TEGAN**

The Doctor must have looked at it recently.

**NYSSA**

It's alphabetical. That helps.

**TURLOUGH**

Well, go on then. M is for... (Mara)

**TEGAN**

Just look, will you!

**TURLOUGH**

Sorry.

(FX: NYSSA TURNS HEAVY PAGES)

**NYSSA**

Even the pages are heavy.

**TURLOUGH**

No... go further on.

**NYSSA**

I know. Now... M...

**TURLOUGH**

It must be there.

**NYSSA**

Manticore... Mapyay... Marabou... Mardi gras... Where is it? There should be a page on its history and lore.

**TURLOUGH**

There was. It's been torn out.

**NYSSA**

Torn out...

**TEGAN**

But who would...? Oh, no.

**TURLOUGH**

The Doctor.

**NYSSA**

The Mara in the Doctor. It's been reading its own history like a book of instructions.

**49. RICK'S STUDIO**

(FX: THE DREAMMAKER PULSES WITH POWER)

**RICK**

All set, Dark One?

**DOCTOR**

I'm waiting.

**RICK**

Baala? (BEAT) Come on, Baalaka! My Lord Mara's waiting. Start the scan.

**BAALA**

(UNEASY) Yes, Mr ausG.

(FX: POWER LEVEL SLOWLY RISING)

**DOCTOR**

Your assistant is beginning to annoy me.

**BAALA**

Dreammaker now scanning.

**RICK**

Please visualise your object.

**BAALA**

ERP levels are high.

**RICK**

Compensate as required.

**BAALA**

I am. It's not responding. ERPs still rising.

(FX: POWER STARTS TO SCREAM)

**DOCTOR**

(GRITTED TEETH) Don't compensate. Let it find its own level.

**RICK**

What about the crystals...!

**BAALA**

Image forming in chamber... It's overloading!

(FX: INSTRUMENTS SNAP AND CRACKLE)

**DOCTOR**

(GROWLS... ROARS.)

**RICK**

Cut the power! Baala!

(FX: POWER FALLS AWAY)

**BAALA**

Powering down now.

**RICK**

Oi, Baala! No lip, right! Or your borrowed time runs out!  
Doctor? You all right?

**DOCTOR**

Your crystals wouldn't take the power.

**RICK**

They're the best I've got. I mortgaged my life away to buy those. I'm still paying.

**DOCTOR**

They're inadequate. The Mara needs a crystal with four times the potential.

**RICK**

No chance.

**DOCTOR**

Then my time was wasted.

**KERREM**

Ahem... Sorry to cut in.

**DOCTOR**

Dr Kerrem?

**KERREM**

But there is such a perfect crystal. The largest they've created so far. I think they only grew it to prove they could.

**DOCTOR**

Where?

**KERREM**

At the Faculty of Advancement.

**RICK**

They'll never hand that over.

**KERREM**

Oh now, I always have a few expense discrepancy strings to play with. Leave it to me.

**DOCTOR**

Kerrem, consider yourself redeemed.

**KERREM**

If I could just have my phone back.

**DOCTOR**

(LAUGHS) Of course.

**RICK**

Glad somebody's laughing.

**DOCTOR**

I will be... soon.

**RICK**

When we've still no show tonight? No studio rabble or Great Minds to entertain them?

**DOCTOR**

We'll make do. Who needs star names anyway? I've already recruited the Minds I need. Bar one, that is.

**BAALA**

Mr ausG?

**RICK**

Now what?

**BAALA**

This was in the isolation chamber. On the floor.

**RICK**

A key? It's a key everyone!

**DOCTOR**

The key to the Doctor's ship. Just as I imagined it. You're machine worked, Rick. Baala, give it to me.

(BEAT)

**RICK**

Go on, Baala. He won't bite.

(FX: BAALA PASSES THE KEY AND RUNS)

He's scared.

**DOCTOR**

He terrifies me too. Still, we're back on track again. The Mara will be born tonight. One more mind, that's all I need. And now I know where to find it.

## **50. TARDIS CONTROL ROOM**

**TURLOUGH**

We brought you some tea.

**NYSSA**

Oh, thanks.

**TEGAN**

And I found some cake. It might be from Christmas. Don't know how old, though. But these things improve with age, don't they?

**NYSSA**

Thanks, Tegan.

**TURLOUGH**

Have you had any sleep?

**NYSSA**

Not really. I have to work this through. According to the TARDIS data bank, we're in the Manussan year Two Two One Five.

**TEGAN**

Right.

**NYSSA**

But the History Section puts the overthrow of the Manussan Empire by the SuMaran regime at Two Three Two Six. Over a hundred years from now.

**TEGAN**

So we're too early. The disaster doesn't happen yet! Oh... I don't know what to say. Thank you, Nyssa.

**TURLOUGH**

You are certain of that?

**NYSSA**

Check the dates for yourself.

**TURLOUGH**

Oh, I believe you.

**TEGAN**

So we've nothing to worry about.

**NYSSA**

Well...

**TURLOUGH**

You're not so sure, are you?

**NYSSA**

The Doctor respects the Web of Time--

**TURLOUGH**

But we're not dealing with the Doctor. And would the Mara in him really care?

**NYSSA**

It's already come this far. Changing history won't bother it.

**TEGAN**

But the Doctor's still alive.

**TURLOUGH**

Tegan...

**TEGAN**

That "monster's" choking him. But he's still alive. We can't leave him! Not now!

(FX: TARDIS DOOR CRASHES OPEN)

**NYSSA**

Doctor!

**DOCTOR**

Well, well. Here you all are. I thought you'd have gone and abandoned your old friend. But you didn't even have the wit to do that.

(FX: FLICKS SWITCH. TARDIS DOOR CLOSES)

**TEGAN**

Doctor? Are you still there? Please!

**DOCTOR**

Tegan! Still in shock that I threw you over?  
And Turlough! Trying and failing to outwit me... as usual.  
And brave, sanctimonious Nyssa – the clever one. Working tirelessly to spread goodness and understanding across the ever-corrupting cosmos. Maybe we'll make a shrine for you.

**TURLOUGH**

Leave her alone. You're not the Doctor.

**TEGAN**

You haven't won. You're too early. It's not the right time.

**DOCTOR**

Rules are there to be broken. I can be the Doctor again – if you like. But I've chosen you, Nyssa, little nun, to be one of my Ministers when the New Order takes over tonight.

**NYSSA**

No!

**TURLOUGH**

Don't you touch her!

**DOCTOR**

Be quiet!

(FX: MARA STING)

**TEGAN**

No!

**DOCTOR**

(ADVANCING) There was a young lady from Traken

**NYSSA**

Keep away from me!

**DOCTOR**

Who picked the wrong doorway to darken

**TURLOUGH**

Leave her!

(FX: **TURLOUGH** GRABS THE **DOCTOR**. THE SNAKE HISSES. **TURLOUGH** GASPS AND FALLS BACK)

**DOCTOR**

But due to a blunder  
She's now lying under

**TEGAN**

Get away from her! Leave her alone!

**DOCTOR**

A place...

(HE GRABS NYSSA)

**NYSSA**

No...

**DOCTOR**

...for the TARDIS to park on!

(FX: MARA STING. SNAKE HISS)

**TEGAN**

Nyssa!

**NYSSA**

(LAUGHS.)

(FX: TARDIS DEMATERIALISATION STARTS)

**DOCTOR**

Welcome, Nyssa, to my band of disciples.

**NYSSA**

(AMUSED) Where are we going?

**DOCTOR**

Not far. Half a mile east. A few hours forward. It takes the tedium out of hanging around.

**NYSSA**

Oh, good. I do hate having to wait.



## **51. RICK'S STUDIO**

**BAALA**

Stand by studio.

(FX: TARDIS LANDS. DOOR OPENS)

**RICK**

Lord Mara, where were you?

**DOCTOR**

Busy. Is everyone set?

**BALAACA**

Transmission in 60 seconds.

**RICK**

We thought we'd have to cancel and pay the crew in tin tacks.

**DOCTOR**

And the new crystal? Is it here? Kerrem?

**KERREM**

All ready, Lord Mara. Installed as you requested.

**RICK**

We spent the day racking up the technology for extra capacity. Runs like a dream.

**DOCTOR**

Excellent. So, here we are, my friends. On the verge, eh? You all understand your duties? Honri Kerrem?

**KERREM**

Lord Mara.

**DOCTOR**

Dadda Desaka?

**DADDA**

Mighty Dark One, I am honoured to be your servant.

**DOCTOR**

Rick ausGarten?

**BAALA**

Live in 30 seconds.

**RICK**

Revving on the grid, boss man.

**DOCTOR**

And this is the final member of our team. The exalted lady Nyssa of Traken.

**NYSSA**

Good evening, gentlemen.

**RICK**

Nice one.

**KERREM**

Good evening, young lady.

**DADDA**

Welcome, child.

**NYSSA**

Dadda, I like your suit.

**RICK**

Take your seats round the crystal. This one's the big moment.

**BAALA**

Transmission in 5... 4... 3...

**DOCTOR**

Everyone ready. Good luck, Manussa.

(FX: IDENT MUSIC)

**RICK**

Welcome to a New Year's Eve special on Sundown Channel. Glad you could join us for *Dreamarama*.

(FX: THEME MUSIC)

**TURLOUGH**

(SOTTO) Tegan? They don't seem bothered about us.

**TEGAN**

They don't care. They're so sure of themselves.

**TURLOUGH**

We can't just stand and watch.

**TEGAN**

I don't know what we do. Short of smashing that crystal.

**RICK**

You join us live as an extraordinary experiment takes place. Tonight, a team of celebrities will prove that dreams can come true. (UNDER TEGAN & TURLOUGH) *With the help of advanced crystal technology, we'll be giving their thoughts physical substance.*

**TURLOUGH**

What are they playing at?

**TEGAN**

It's the end of this world. A century early. They're bringing the Mara back to life!

**DOCTOR**

Thank you, team. Please concentrate your thoughts on the first subject.

**RICK**

And the first experiment has already kicked off.

**BAALA**

Commencing scanning.

(FX: SPOOKY CELESTIAL MUSIC. DREAMMAKER PULSES)

**RICK**

The team's thought potential focuses through the special giant Dreammaker crystal. And their dream becomes reality there in the isolation booth. So now let's see if their dreams really do come true!

**TEGAN**

I can't let this happen!

**TURLOUGH**

Tegan!

**TEGAN**

Stop it! Stop it! You don't know what you're doing!

**TURLOUGH**

You have to stop this!

**RICK**

Security? Get them away from there!

(FX: GUARDS RUN IN. **TEGAN** & **TURLOUGH** STRUGGLE)

**TURLOUGH**

Get off me!

**TEGAN**

Let me go! Nyssa! Help us!

(FX: DEEP RUMBLE STARTS)

**BAALA**

Image forming.

**TEGAN**

No! Doctor!

**DOCTOR**

Welcome!

**BAALA**

Subject consolidating.

(FX: MARA STING)

**TURLOUGH**

Agh! It's a snake! A giant snake!

(FX: GLASS SMASHES. BIG SNAKE ROAR)

**DOCTOR**

The Mara! The Mara is reborn! It lives again!

**END OF PART 3.**

**Part 4.**

**51. RICK'S STUDIO (continued)**

*(FX: DEEP RUMBLE STARTS)*

**BAALA**

*Image forming.*

**TEGAN**

*No! Doctor!*

**DOCTOR**

*Welcome!*

**BAALA**

*Subject consolidating.*

*(FX: MARA STING)*

**TURLOUGH**

*Agh! It's a snake! A giant snake!*

*(FX: GLASS SMASHES. BIG SNAKE ROAR)*

**DOCTOR**

*The Mara! The Mara is reborn! It lives again!*

*(FX: DAZZLING BACKGROUND MIASMA OF THE SNAKE'S INFLUENCE)*

*Welcome! We greet you as our Protector!*

**RICK**

*(TO CAMERA) As you can see, after a bit of a ruckus from protesters, the first manifestation of our Dreammaker has come as quite a surprise.*

*Let's talk to one of the team who quite literally thought it up. Dr Honri Kerrem of the Faculty of Advancement. So is that what you planned?*

**KERREM**

*(EXCITED) Magnificent, isn't it? And appropriate too. The Great Serpent is one of the ancient emblems of Manussa.*

**RICK**

*And still growing as well.*

**KERREM**

*It certainly is. But only just born – let's not forget that. A living creature that never existed before today has been brought into our world. Matter from pure thought energy. And, I believe, a turning point for us all. Extraordinary!*

## **52. MONITOR ROOM**

[UNDER TEGAN AND TURLOUGH'S EXCHANGES, THE TINNY STUDIO FEED STILL BURBLES ON:]

**RICK**

*You must be very proud.*

**KERREM**

*My goodness, yes.*

**RICK**

*Nothing to worry about though. It seems to be quite safe.*

**KERREM**

*Well, I wouldn't call it "safe." But it is customising itself to new surroundings.*

**RICK**

*Indeed. So no flash photos or anything. And it's a big welcome to viewers already joining us on major channels right across Manussa. A bit of New Year schedule-sweeping going on, I think.*

**KERREM**

*Goodness, yes*

**RICK**

*I'm Rick ausGarten and here we are at Sundown Studios in Pura City where the first ever televised creation of a living creature from pure thought has produced this magnificent serpent. Through the programme, we'll be tracing the history and birth of this incredible experiment and looking at how it'll effect us all. Quite a milestone, I think you'll all agree...].*

**TURLOUGH**

*Maybe we're safer in here for the moment.*

**TEGAN**

*It won't last.*

**TURLOUGH**

*Sorry, Tegan. I never knew it would be so...*

**TEGAN**

*Monstrous? Evil?*

**TURLOUGH**

*Horrible. I thought I was used to snakes. But the way it moves. It's solid muscle. It's so strong.*

**TEGAN**

And hateful. The Doctor stopped it before. Twice over. But this time..

**TURLOUGH**

But it doesn't talk.

**TEGAN**

It's an influence. It lives through people – through their worst features. That's what it preys on. I know that, believe me. It stirs things up to feed and grow. It'll start a reign of terror right across Manussa.

**TURLOUGH**

With the Doctor and Nyssa as its chief advocates. But how do we save them?

**TEGAN**

I've had enough of listening to this.

(FX: SWITCHES OFF THE STUDIO FEED)

**TURLOUGH**

Look. Through the glass.

**TEGAN**

What's he staring at?

**TURLOUGH**

It's Baala. (GESTICULATING) Baala! Remember me? Please. Let us out. No, don't go!

**TEGAN**

I thought he worked for ausGarten.

**TURLOUGH**

He gets treated like a dog. He even sleeps with the other animals. And he still comes back for more.

**TEGAN**

Maybe that's what we'll all get.

**53. STUDIO**

(FX: SNAKE'S HISSY ROAR. ITS DAZZLING MIASMA CONTINUES)

**RICK**

To help us take in the significance of this amazing manifestation, I'm going to hand over to my colleague, the Doctor, who'll explain some of the background.

**DOCTOR**

(COLD) Not a Doctor now, Rick. (PRESENTER MODE) Well, it's quite a night here, and to help me explain the importance of what the Great Snake, this symbol of power, will mean to all of us on Manussa – because that's very much what it is, a symbol of world power – I'm joined by revered mystic Dadda Desaka.

**DADDA**

Happy New Year to you all.

**DOCTOR**

And to you. Now you were part of our team, our spiritual guide so to speak, who assisted in this summoning.

**DADDA**

(SUDDEN SOPHISTICATION – THOUGHT FOR THE DAY MODE) I think the world and its Empire should be rejoicing. You know, as our world grows more advanced, we regrettably lose sight of the old wisdom and truth we once knew and lived by. But tonight, as I'm sure you'll agree, a great wonder has come amongst us.

**DOCTOR**

Indeed.

**DADDA**

Now the Snake, the *Mara*, is of course, an ancient totem. And it's revealed itself in its true form as our Protector – a symbol of the new strength of Manussa. Its light will strike fear into our enemies and bring us victory against all adversity and darkness. So good Manussans, look into your own hearts. For the *Mara* is there. It is the hope that drives back the despair in all of us.

(FX: SNAKE ROARS)

**DOCTOR**

Very uplifting, exalted Dadda. Thank you. And in recognition of this momentous occasion, the Snake, the *Mara* itself, is accepting offerings and sacrifices for the dawn of its New Age. Call this number to make your pledges now.

(VOICE STARTS TO RESONATE, AS IF ECHOING THROUGH A CAVERN)



The Great Snake will make its first public appearance at midnight here at Sundown Studio, Pura City. (UNDER REAL DOCTOR LINE) *And if you can't be here, watch the full coverage on Sundown Channel. We'll be back an hour before midnight. See you then.*

**REAL DOCTOR** (OVER DOCTOR)

(LOST, AFRAID) Please... please listen to me... I'm the Doctor. Help me please.

#### **54. STUDIO**

(FX: CLOSING CREDIT MUSIC RUNS)

**RICK**

(OFF) Right, clear the studio. Thank you everyone. Oi, Baala. What are you doing?

(FX: SNAKE HISSES)

**BAALA**

(QUIET) Hello, Snake.

(FX: SNAKE HISSES SHARPLY AS IF SCARED)

**RICK**

(OFF) Baala, get away from there!

**BAALA**

What enemies? What was he saying? I don't understand. Manussa doesn't have enemies.

(FX: ANOTHER HISS)

**RICK**

(GRABBING BAALA) Come on, come away. Back to work. Sort out some of the livestock, will you? Sooner or later, our "Great Protector's" gonna need feeding.

**55. MONITOR ROOM**

(TINNY CLOSING MUSIC ON THE FEED)

**TURLOUGH**

People aren't going to fall for that.

**TEGAN**

They'll be too terrified to argue. The Snake's very persuasive.

**TURLOUGH**

What about Nyssa? If we could talk to her...

**TEGAN**

You think she'd listen? There must be another way.

**TURLOUGH**

(CAUTIOUS) We erm... still have a key to the TARDIS.

**TEGAN**

And leave them!

**TURLOUGH**

We may have to.

**TEGAN**

Don't even think about it, Turlough!

(FX: DOOR UNLOCKS AND OPENS)

**BAALA**

Turlough?

**TURLOUGH**

Baala. I didn't think you'd come back.

**BAALA**

I brought you some food.

**TEGAN**

Like the rest of the livestock?

**TURLOUGH**

Tegan!

**TEGAN**

Sorry. Thanks, but I'm not really hungry.

**TURLOUGH**

Thanks, Baala.

**BAALA**

You were scared of the Doctor.

**TURLOUGH**

Yes, well now you know why.

**BAALA**

But what does he want? Why did he dream the Snake alive?

**TEGAN**

It's the Snake that controls things. It was waiting to be created. It thrives on the chaos it causes.

**BAALA**

And that happens tonight. Everything changes. Can you feel it? The air's full of anger and hate.

**TURLOUGH**

Baala, don't stay here. Go home to your family.

**BAALA**

I never had a family.

**TEGAN**

What about friends you could go to? Where did you grow up?

**BAALA**

I don't know. I never "grew up." I was always this age.

**TEGAN**

(CONFUSED) Right...

**TURLOUGH**

Baala? Is there a private line – to call Yoanna Rayluss?

**TEGAN**

Yoanna?

**TURLOUGH**

She's not here... not part of the party. Maybe she can get the plug pulled.

**BAALA**

There's a line in Mr ausG's office, but... he's my friend. He looks after me.

**TURLOUGH**

Your "friend" is out there, controlled by the Mara. Come on. This is the only way to save him. Agreed?

**BAALA**

(SIGH) Along here.

**TURLOUGH**

Thank you.

(FX: THEY LEAVE)

**TEGAN**

Great... I guess that leaves me to try Nyssa. And what a joyride that'll be.

## **56. STUDIO**

(FX: SNAKE MIASMA. IT HISSES GENTLY)

### **DOCTOR**

Not long until midnight, Great One. And the crowds are already gathering out there. Your first appearance in public is keenly anticipated.

(FX: SNAKE HISSES)

Not shy, are you?

(FX: SNAKE HISSES ANGRILY)

No, of course not. The sooner they learn to fear you, the better. It's time to rattle this planet out of its self-satisfied torpor. Paradise was never so ripe for the plucking.

### **RICK**

(SHORT WAY OFF) Lord Mara? May I approach?

### **DOCTOR**

(MUTTER) We may have given my colleagues position, but it doesn't mean they'll get the power to go with it. (ALOUD) Approach at your own risk, Rick ausGarten.

(FX: SNAKE HISSES)

### **RICK**

Great Lord Mara, I've got my technical crew on standby here. We need to make a few adjustments to the amplification unit housing the Great Crystal. Just a few tweaks...

(FX: SNAKE HISS/ GROWLS)

Strewth!

(FX: THE SNAKE IS SLIDING HEAVILY BY, HISSING AS IT GOES)

### **DOCTOR**

Get back, man! Look out!

### **RICK**

Great Lord, no offence...! (BEAT) What's it doing?

### **DOCTOR**

It's protecting its source. Like a dragon with its horde.

### **RICK**

We'll never get near the Crystal now. Not with it coiled round like that.

(FX: SNAKE SNARLS)

**DOCTOR**

(THREAT) Don't try and control the Snake, Rick. It thinks faster than you can. And so do I! Gather the others. We need to agree our plans. After midnight, there'll be new disciples by the thousand – all of them looking to the Council of the Snake for guidance.

**57. RICK'S OFFICE**

(FX: PHONE RING TONE ON LINE. YOANNA ANSWERS. CROWD IN BACKGROUND)

**YOANNA**

(ON PHONE) Yoanna Rayluss?

**TURLOUGH**

Mrs Rayluss? This is Vislor Turlough.

**YOANNA**

(ON PHONE) Mr Turlough. I've been waiting all day, you know.

**TURLOUGH**

I'm sorry.

**YOANNA**

(ON PHONE) You do know what's going on?

**TURLOUGH**

Probably better than you. I'm inside Sundown Studios.

**YOANNA**

(ON PHONE) Inside?

**TURLOUGH**

Not from choice.

**YOANNA**

(ON PHONE) With the Doctor? And that Snake thing?

**TURLOUGH**

Yes.

**YOANNA**

(ON PHONE) Is it a hoax... I mean true?

**TURLOUGH**

The Snake's real enough

**YOANNA**

(ON PHONE) No...

**TURLOUGH**

Mrs Rayluss, can you do anything to get the broadcast stopped? Otherwise it's going to be a disaster.

**YOANNA**

(ON PHONE) But I'm outside now... in the crowd.

**TURLOUGH**

Outside?

**YOANNA**

(ON PHONE) You know what New Year's like. Safety Squad are already at full stretch – Everyone's heading this way.

**TURLOUGH**

Can you get into the Studio?

**YOANNA**

(ON PHONE) Not likely. Rick ausGarten's called in the heavy mob to seal the place.

**BAALA**

Here, let me. Mrs Rayluss? It's Baalaka. Round at the back, by the bins, there's a small door we use to avoid Mr ausG's fans. I'll meet you there.

**YOANNA**

(ON PHONE) Right. Okay. Gotcha.

(FX: LINE GOES DEAD)

**RICK**

Well now.

**BAALA**

Mr ausG!

**RICK**

Baala and Turlough, playing the innocents.

(FX: GRABS TURLOUGH)

**TURLOUGH**

Ow!

**RICK**

You're the Doctor's sidekick. Or were. Does he know how to control the Snake? Do you know!?!

**TURLOUGH**

Maybe.

**RICK**

You'd better remember. Stay out of sight until you do. Meantime I'll do the honours over meeting the lovely Mrs R. Let's see how her rules and regulations deal with the Snake.

**58. WAREHOUSE**

(BIRDS SINGING AND SQUAWKING)

**NYSSA**

(PETULANT) These governmental books are useless. How can I work from them? (CALLING) And fetch me some decent clothes. I can't possibly attend the Lord Mara's Presentation dressed like this.

(BEAT)

**TEGAN**

(NERVOUS) Nyssa?

**NYSSA**

Tegan! You look a bit of a state. I thought they'd locked you up.

**TEGAN**

I got out.

**NYSSA**

True to form.

**TEGAN**

(CAUTIOUS) How are you? I'm so sorry it happened to you too.

**NYSSA**

Taking the Mark? Seeing sense at last, you mean. All that power and time I've wasted. I've finally realised what a self-righteous little prig I've always been. Embarrassing really. (GIGGLE) Still, now it's all taken a turn for the better.

**TEGAN**

Nyssa? Have you been... (drinking)?

**NYSSA**

Well, why not? We've something to celebrate, haven't we? And guess what? I think I've even found a sense of humour. How about that?

**TEGAN**

You always had a sense of humour.

**NYSSA**

But I didn't enjoy it. What a waste. Oh, but I am sorry for you.

**TEGAN**

Me?

**NYSSA**

Missing out on all the fun. Don't feel too dejected, you poor darling. The Doctor's furious with you, of course. But he was always such a bully. Either sulking or shouting. (DARKLY) Yes, I think we'll have to do something about him.

(FX: DOOR SLAMS)

(WHISPER) Look out! Behind here.

**DOCTOR**

(APPROACHING) Nyssa! The Lord Mara has ordered a meeting in fifteen minutes... (SUSPICIOUS) What are you doing in here?

**NYSSA**

Feeding the birds. Their plumage is fading. (COQUETTISH) Just like mine.

(SUDDENLY IT'S GONE A BIT FLIRTATIOUS.)

**DOCTOR**

You'll find far more attractive clothes in the TARDIS wardrobe. Something red, I think. Or black.

**NYSSA**

We'll have to see what I can come up with.

**DOCTOR**

Here's the key.

**NYSSA**

Thanks.

**DOCTOR**

But don't bother with the flight controls. I've disabled them. (LEAVING) Fifteen minutes, Nyssa.

(FX: AFTER A BEAT, THE DOOR SLAMS)

**NYSSA**

You can come out now.

**TEGAN**

I thought you'd shop me. What is the Doctor like?

**NYSSA**

Poor Tegan. I know you're jealous.

**TEGAN**

What?

**NYSSA**

But I was born to power, you see. And if you work hard, I'll let you be my personal assistant. How would you like that?

**TEGAN**

Oh, thank you, Nyssa. I'd... like that very much.



**59. EXT. BACK DOOR**

(FX: DISTANT CROWDS. PHONE RING TONE ON LINE)

**YOANNA**

Come on, Turlough, pick up.

(FX: DOOR OPENS. SHE CLICKS OFF PHONE)

Oh! Mr ausGarten... I didn't expect... You were ordered to close this studio. Your broadcasts are illegal.

**RICK**

You should see the ratings. Come on in, Yoanna. It's a mad night, tonight.

**YOANNA**

What's going on in there?

**RICK**

Be one of the first. Come on.

**YOANNA**

No.

**RICK**

Or take the Mark now.

(FX: MARA STING)

**YOANNA**

Your arm!

**RICK**

Take it.

**YOANNA**

No. I don't believe in cults. They're the slide that leads to anarchy and chaos.

**RICK**

Why worry? It's all falling down anyway. Forget the past. There's no future either. There's just Now. Come on. You know you can't resist.

**YOANNA**

I won't. I won't join you.

**RICK**

Then stay out in the cold. It'll get you in the end.

## **60. STUDIO**

(FX: FANFARE)

### **DOCTOR**

A proclamation from the Snake.

(FX: SNAKE HISSES)

We, Regent Protector of Manussa, her lands and colonial worlds, do invite the leaders of those settlements to attend us in council on the home world, where tribute and fealty due to the Lord Mara shall be confirmed and decreed. Long Live the Realm of the Snake!

(FX: SNAKE HISSES. FANFARE REPEATS.)

## **61. TARDIS CONTROL ROOM**

(FX: DOOR BUZZES OPENS)

### **TURLOUGH**

In here, Baala. It'll be safer in the TARDIS.

### **BAALA**

This place... It's a palace. Who dreamt of this?

### **TEGAN**

Turlough? Oh, that's a relief. I thought you were the Doctor. Did you speak to Yoanna?

### **TURLOUGH**

Not exactly. How did you get in? He's not here, is he?

### **TEGAN**

I'm with Nyssa. She's trying on outfits in the wardrobe.

### **TURLOUGH**

She's what? Is that safe?

### **TEGAN**

Not exactly. But she's hardly a friend of the Doctor's either. And he's disabled the TARDIS.

### **TURLOUGH**

I thought he might.

### **BAALA**

It's nearly midnight. The Snake will soon be presented to the people.

**TEGAN**

And they'll be too scared to resist. It'll be a disaster.

**BAALA**

The Snake channels its will through the Great Crystal.

**TEGAN**

Fat chance of getting near that. The monster's coiled right round it.

(FX: DOOR OPENS)

**NYSSA**

You can't stop it.

**TURLOUGH**

Nyssa? What are you doing?

**TEGAN**

You look amazing... Lady Nyssa.

**NYSSA**

I'll take your word for it. My natural modesty makes it hard for me to look at myself. But the Presentation tonight is vital. Manussa needs the strength of the Mara. And I shall be its guiding hand.

**BAALA**

That sounds like the Doctor.

**NYSSA**

Don't listen to him. He's all hot air and bombast. But support me and I shall build a new Empire to the glory of the Mara's name.

**TEGAN**

It's an honour to serve you, Lady Nyssa.

**TURLOUGH**

It is indeed.

**NYSSA**

Thank you, my good friends.

## **62. STUDIO**

**DOCTOR**

Where's Nyssa? I told her to be here. Kerrem? Go and fetch her.

**KERREM**

I'm not running your errands. Particularly not after that pipsqueak girl. She hasn't an ounce of my experience. Or of the Dadda's for that matter.

**DADDA**

Oh harsh, Kerrem. She has a certain spiritual tenacity. And an easy appeal to the eye.

**DOCTOR**

She has a quicker mind than any of you!

**KERREM**

We'll have to watch that then.

**RICK**

Hardly shows respect to our Lord Mara, does it?

(FX: SNAKE HISSES)

**NYSSA**

(APPROACHING) Lord Mara, a thousand apologies.

**DADDA**

(REACTING TO NYSSA'S ATTIRE) I say.

**NYSSA**

I wanted to look my best for the Presentation. And for my fellow councillors.

**KERREM**

You put us to shame, my dear.

(FX: SNAKE HISSES)

**DOCTOR**

Lord Mara is angry. It demands that the two insurgents, who tried to delay its birth, and anyone associating with them, must be captured and their lives offered in atonement. And I'll have the key to my ship back too.

**NYSSA**

Of course. Tegan and Turlough? Weren't they *your* companions once?

**RICK**

It's nearly midnight. We're due out on the terrace.

**DOCTOR**

Lord Mara, your subjects await.

(FX: SNAKE ROARS)

### **63. STUDIO**

**TURLOUGH**

There they go. The Mara too. Quick, shut the doors.

**BAALA**

I'll do that.

(FX: HE CLOSES THE HEAVY DOORS)

**TEGAN**

Where's all the security gone? The Crystal's left unguarded.

**BAALA**

Mr ausG dismissed them. I saw him.

**TURLOUGH**

Really? He's not so daft, is he?

**TEGAN**

So if we get the Crystal away...

**TURLOUGH**

... into the TARDIS.

**TEGAN**

Just what I thought. Maybe we can get the Doctor and Nyssa clear too.

**TURLOUGH**

That'll take some doing.

**TEGAN**

You reckon? Give me a hand with those monitors...

**BAALA**

Look at the crystal? Look at the light in its depths.

**TEGAN**

Baala? (SOTTO) What is it with him? No family of friends. He doesn't seem to belong.

**TURLOUGH**

I don't think he's ever been outside these studios.

**TEGAN**

You're joking?

**TURLOUGH**

He's like the birds and snakes in the warehouse. He was born here, out of the crystals.

(FX: DOOR OPENS)

**BAALA**

Someone's coming.

**TURLOUGH**

Yoanna? What's happened?

**YOANNA**

(DISTRESSED) Turlough? Tegan? I was going to stay outside. But I managed to force the door.

**TURLOUGH**

Did you see Rick ausGarten? We couldn't stop him.

**YOANNA**

Yes, I saw him. He offered me the Mark of the Snake. I told him no. But the crowds out there are huge. I've never seen so many. And they're all milling and confused. Like cattle to the slaughter.

(FX: DISTANT CROWD ROARS)

**64. EXT. TERRACE**

(FX: THE CROWD ROARS)

**DADDA**

(ECHOING ON TANNOY) Good people. Before the Great One appears before you, let us reflect on the honour it bestows on us all.

**KERREM**

(MUTTER) Get on with it, man.

**DOCTOR**

You'll get your turn, Kerrem.

**DADDA**

As the old year turns on the wheel of time, the new year brings a new age. The Manussan era ends, the SuMaran era begins. Let us remember the balance of all things.

Night swallows Day

Light follows Dark

**DOCTOR**

On the other hand.

**NYSSA**

Too much of a good thing.

**DADDA**

Desolation drowns Hope

Hope conquers Despair.

So be it.

**CROWD**

So be it.

(FX: SNAKE HISS FROM INSIDE)

**RICK**

Lord Mara's getting restless. I'll announce him.

**DOCTOR**

My job, I think, Rick. (ONTO TANNOY) Thank you, Dadda Desaka, for leading our prayers.

**KERREM**

Still five minutes to go. Let's do these things properly.

**RICK**

No time like the present.

**NYSSA**

No! It's too soon!

**DOCTOR**

(TANNOY) Good people, the moment is here. Today the symbol of Manussa's power comes amongst. Today you shall see its strength.

**65. STUDIO**

**TEGAN**

(URGENT) Okay. Screens in a circle. Now help me with the cameras.

**TURLOUGH**

Cameras next. Right.

**YOANNA**

I think we should get a move on.

(FX: THE DAZZLING MIASMA STARTS FROM THE CRYSTAL)

**TURLOUGH**

What's that?

**TEGAN**

I know that sound.

**BAALA**

The crystal. It flared. The Mara's starting to channel its will!

**YOANNA**

We're too late. It's beginning! I have to see.

**TURLOUGH**

Yoanna!

**TEGAN**

I'm gonna get the Doctor.

**TURLOUGH**

Tegan! Be careful!



**66. EXT. TERRACE**

(FX: MIASMA DAZZLES OUT OVER CROWD)

**DOCTOR**

(TANNOY) Today Manussa changes forever.

**CROWD**

Get on with it! / We want the Snake! We want the Snake! etc

(FX: RICK OPENING THE DOORS)

**RICK**

Come on, the Mara. Out you come!

**KERREM**

It's too early! I haven't had my say yet!

**DOCTOR**

(TANNOY) The Snake is your Protector. It will guide us...

(FX: SNAKE ROARS)

**NYSSA**

Look out!

**RICK**

Behold the Great One!

(FX: CROWD SCREAMS. SNAKE ROARS)

**KERREM**

Too soon! Go back! (SCREAMS)

**NYSSA**

Dr Kerrem!

(FX: THE SNAKE DEVOURS KERREM WHOLE. THE CROWD FALLS SILENT. THE MIASMA CEASES. A CHURCH CLOCK SLOWLY CHIMES MIDNIGHT — OR IS IT THE WORLD'S DEATH KNELL?)

**DOCTOR**

(TANNOY) Thus will all Manussa's enemies perish! The Lord Mara demands absolute loyalty. The world will be united on that. Now come forward. Show your faith and take the Mark of the Mara.

(FX: MARA STING)

**DADDA**

Pass it on.

**1<sup>st</sup> VICTIM**

CRIES OUT.

**DADDA/NYSSA/RICK**

(VARIOUSLY) Pass it on. Pass it on.

(FX: MARA STINGS REPEAT. MORE AND MORE VICTIMS CRY OUT, AND THEN MUTTER "Pass it on" AS THE MARK SPREADS)

**CROWD**

(GRADUALLY SPREADING – TO *Auld Lang Syne*)

*Oh, pass it on*

*Oh, pass it on*

*Oh, pass it, pass it on etc.*

(FX: SNAKE HISSES WITH GROWING SATISFACTION)

**YOANNA**

How horrible. It's still growing.

**TEGAN**

It's feeding on the despair.

**YOANNA**

We're too late. There's no hope left.

**TEGAN**

Not if I can help it! Doctor! Doctor! It's Tegan!

(FX: SNAKE HISSES)

**DOCTOR**

Tegan? Tegan!

**YOANNA**

Run, Tegan!

(FX: TEGAN RUNS)

**DOCTOR**

(RUNNING) Tegan!

(FX: SINGING CONTINUES)

**RICK**

Yoanna?

**YOANNA**

Hello, Rick.

**RICK**

I knew you'd come.

**YOANNA**

I'm ready now. Happy New Year.

**RICK**

And to you. Pass it on.

(FX: MARA STING)

**YOANNA** GASPS.

## **67. STUDIO**

(FX: DISTANT SINGING. TEGAN RUNNING FROM A DISTANCE, PURSUED BY THE DOCTOR )

**TEGAN**

(APPROACHING) Turlough! Let me through!

**DOCTOR**

(FURTHER BACK) Tegan!

**TURLOUGH**

Let her through!

**TEGAN**

(GASPS, SHE'S THROUGH.)

**DOCTOR**

(RUNS IN SNARLING.)

**TURLOUGH**

Close it up! Close it up!

(FX: MONITORS CLUNK INTO PLACE)

**DOCTOR**

(YELLS, GASPING THIS WAY AND THAT.)

**TEGAN**

(BREATHLESS) Got you! I've got you! You can't get out of the circle!

**TURLOUGH**

You're on a dozen cameras, Doctor! And a dozen screens!

**TEGAN**

You can't stand it! You can't look at yourself!

**TURLOUGH**

He's going. He's weakening!

**DOCTOR**

(SUBSIDING INTO A WHIMPERING BALL.)

**TEGAN**

Has the Snake left him? Has it gone? Don't touch him!

**TURLOUGH**

The Mark's still on his arm. But isn't the Snake outside already?

(FX: CRYSTAL MIASMA FLARES)

**BAALA**

Look. Look in the crystal.

**TURLOUGH**

What is it, Baala?

**TEGAN**

What are you looking at?

**BAALA**

Look into the depths. (STARTS TO ECHO) Deep down. There, you see it?

(FX: SINGLE NOTE RINGS)

The still point.

(FX: THE GENTLE SOUND OF WINDCHIMES CREEPS IN)

## **68. EXT. THE PLACE OF DREAMING**

(FX: WINDCHIMES STIR GENTLY)

**DADDA**

(BURBLING IN HIS OLD STYLE)

Night swallows Day

Light follows Dark

(UNDER NYSSA)

*Desolation drowns Hope*

*Hope conquers Despair.*

*The Sun melts the Ice*

*The Poor drag down the Rich. (REPEATS)*

**NYSSA**

(OVER DADDA) It is them, Dadda. I can see them! (CALLING)

Tegan, Turlough! Over here!

**TURLOUGH**

(ARRIVING) Nyssa. Thank goodness.

**TEGAN**

Oh, am I glad to see you!

**NYSSA**

We thought you'd never arrive.

**TURLOUGH**

Are you all right now?

**NYSSA**

All right?

**BAALA**

It's beautiful here. Whose vision is this place?

**TEGAN**

It's like the place of dreaming on the Kinda world. And that's where everything started going wrong.

**TURLOUGH**

But are you all right?

**NYSSA**

Not really, no. Not until the Mara releases my body. I feel... rejected. What am I doing out there in the world?

**TURLOUGH**

You don't want to know.

**TEGAN**

It wasn't you anyway.

**NYSSA**

But I can't go back.

**DADDA**

Not until the Balance is restored.

**BAALA**

Balance? What balance?

**DAADA**

Child, if you don't know that, no-one knows.

**NYSSA**

And where's the Doctor?

**TEGAN**

Isn't he here with you?

**NYSSA**

No.

(FX: PHONE TRILLS)

**DADDA**

Somebody answer that.

**TURLOUGH**

I've got a phone. I never had a phone.

**BAALA**

It's a dream. It doesn't matter. Just answer it.

(FX: TRILL STOPS)

**TURLOUGH**

Hello? (BEAT) Hello?

**DOCTOR**

(ON PHONE — WEAK) Turlough...

**TURLOUGH**

Doctor?

**TEGAN**

Is it him?

**DOCTOR**

(PHONE) Help me... I'm waiting at the still point.

**TURLOUGH**

So are we? Where are you?

**NYSSA**

Come and find us, Doctor.

**DOCTOR**

(PHONE) Just remember me.

**TURLOUGH**

Remember you? We all remember you. We all remember the Doctor.

**69. FAIRGROUND**

(FX: WIND STIRS THE CHIMES. A DISTANT CAROUSEL TUNE CREEPS IN)

**MARA-DOCTOR**

Thank you, Turlough.

**TURLOUGH**

(DELIGHTED) Doctor.

**MARA-DOCTOR**

My friend!

**TEGAN**

Look out!

**NYSSA**

Get back!

(FX: MARA STING. THE CAROUSEL'S RELENTLESS JANGLING TUNE)

**TURLOUGH**

(CRIES OUT IN PAIN.)

**NYSSA**

It's the wrong Doctor!

**TEGAN**

No!

**TURLOUGH**

(COLLAPSES GASPING.)

**MARA-DOCTOR**

And Tegan, last of all. Come back to the snakefold.

**TEGAN**

*Get away from me! Get away!*

**DOCTOR**

(ARRIVING BREATHLESS) Leave her. Leave Tegan alone!

**MARA-DOCTOR**

She's my prey. Always mine. Always will be.

**TEGAN**

No...

**DOCTOR**

She's my friend. Get out of my dream!

**MARA-DOCTOR**

(HISSES)

**DOCTOR**

Keep clear, Tegan!

**MARA-DOCTOR**

(SNARLS) She's mine! You're all mine!

**DADDA**

Here is the Balance. Light against dark; the living against the unborn.

**MARA-DOCTOR**

I am born! I'll have ten thousand cradles!

**DOCTOR**

You have no place in the world!

**MARA-DOCTOR**

More cradles by the moment! Pass it on!

**DOCTOR**

Go back to the dark places inside.

**MARA-DOCTOR**

(ROARS)

**MARA-DOCTOR**

The world's where I belong!

**DOCTOR**

Nowhere's where you belong!

THE LINES REPEAT OVER AND OVER, JOINING TO A CHORUS.  
THE CAROUSEL CRESCENDOES... AND DISPERSES.



## **70. STUDIO**

(EVERYONE A BIT DAZED)

**TEGAN**

Did you just dream what I dreamed?

**TURLOUGH**

I think so. We're back.

**BAALA**

I never dreamed before. Am I dreaming this too?

**TURLOUGH**

How can we tell?

**TEGAN**

What about the Doctor?

**DOCTOR**

Tegan? (STRETCHING) I seem to be free. Look, no more snake mark. Thank you very much, all of you. The Balance is back.

**TEGAN**

At last? Really?

**NYSSA**

Doctor?

**TURLOUGH**

Nyssa!

**DOCTOR**

Nyssa! Are you free too?

**NYSSA**

Well, yes. Everyone is... except...

**DOCTOR**

What's the matter?

**NYSSA**

The Snake's still alive.

**TEGAN**

It can't be.

**DOCTOR**

Still alive?

(FX: DISTANT SNAKE SNARL)

It's the Crystal. The link hasn't been cut!

**TEGAN**

It's coming!

(FX: DOORS CLATTER)

**RICK**

Doctor! The Snake demands your allegiance!

**YOANNA**

Stand away from the Crystal, Doctor!

(FX: SNAKE HITS THE DOORS SNARLING)

**DOCTOR**

Quick, help me get the Crystal into the TARDIS!

(CRASH! CRASH! SNARL)

**DOCTOR**

Turlough, give me a hand!

**TURLOUGH**

The Mara's grown too much. It can't get in!

**BAALA**

I'll do it!

**DOCTOR**

Got it?

**RICK & YOANNA**

Make way for the Mara!

**BAALA**

(HEFTING) Yes!

**TEGAN**

Inside quickly!

(FX: DOOR AND TIMBER SMASH.  
THE SNAKE CAREERS IN.  
ITS ROAR ENGULFS EVERYTHING)

**71. TARDIS CONTROL ROOM**

(FX: EVERYONE RUNNING IN)

**DOCTOR**

Shut the doors!

(FX: DOORS CLOSING. THE TARDIS RUMBLES AND JUDDERS)

**BAALA**

What's happening?

**DOCTOR**

The Mara has swallowed the TARDIS whole!

**TEGAN**

Swallowed us?

**BAALA**

But it can't get in, can it?

(FX: DOCTOR PULLING OPEN PANELS)

**DOCTOR**

Not short of digesting its way in, no.

**TEGAN**

Can't we just take off?

**DOCTOR**

And leave Manussa's population still in the Mara's thrall? I don't think so. Nyssa, hold this.

**NYSSA**

What are you doing?

**DOCTOR**

Mutualising the crystal lattice into the TARDIS mainframe. That way I can invert its power, reversing its creation. The only problem is... it has to be in physical contact with the snake.

**TURLOUGH**

I don't think that's a good idea.

**NYSSA**

Neither do I.

(DOCTOR THROWS SWITCHES. CRYSTAL STARTS TO HUM)

**NYSSA**

Give me that!

**TURLOUGH**

The Snake must live on!

**TEGAN**

Their arms! They've still got the Mark of the Snake!

**DOCTOR**

Nyssa? Did you lie to me?

**NYSSA**

You're so gullible, Doctor.

**TURLOUGH**

It's hard to resist.

**DOCTOR**

Let go of me!

(FX: MARA STING)

**TEGAN**

Leave him alone!

(FX: DOOR BUZZ OPEN. GURGLING AND WRITHING OF MARA INNARDS)

What do I do, Doctor?

**DOCTOR**

(STRUGGLING) The Crystal's unstable. Be careful!

**TURLOUGH**

(MOCKING) Go on, Tegan. Take the Crystal out into the belly of the Snake. I dare you!

**NYSSA**

(LAUGHING) She can't! It's what keeps her awake at night!

**TEGAN**

(DETERMINEDLY CALM) Doctor? I have to save Manussa from the... from the... Mara!

**DOCTOR**

No, Tegan!

**TEGAN**

Yes, I do. It started with me. I have to end it. Thank you, Doctor, Nyssa, Turlough. Goodbye.

**TURLOUGH**

Give me that!

**BAALA**

Don't touch her!

(FX: CRACK OF ENERGY. TURLOUGH REELS OFF WITH A CRY)

**TEGAN**

Baala?

**BAALA**

Give it to me, Tegan. I understand now. It's the Balance. I was created first, you see. I'm the light that casts the Mara's shadow. It exists because I exist. So it's up to me to do something about my other half.

**TEGAN**

I'm so sorry.

**BAALA**

I like to be useful. Goodbye, all of you. Please close the doors behind me.

**TEGAN**

Goodbye, Baala.

**TURLOUGH**

Stop him!

**NYSSA**

Come back!

(FX: DOORS BUZZ HALF CLOSED. A TERRIFIC BURST OF ENERGY)

**72. EXT. PARK MONTAGE**

(FX: BIRDSONG)

**DADDA**

"In Baala, innocence cancelled out dark knowledge. The Snake turned in on itself, devouring its own tail. And the shackles of the Mara fell like scales from our eyes." What do you think?

**DOCTOR**

Well, I suppose that's one way of putting it, Dadda.

**DADDA**

I'm commissioned for a book.

**DOCTOR**

Excellent.

**DADDA**

Goodness knows what the tribe will say. I'm supposed to foretell their future, but this morning it kept coming out all wrong. The signs are *better*! Imagine that! I could be out of a job.

**DOCTOR**

I wouldn't worry. Even if Manussa's *old* future never happens, I'm sure the New Year will have enough disasters to keep us both happy for ages to come!

(FX: FLOCK OF BIRDS TAKING OFF)

**RICK**

There they go then. Baala's birds. Seemed all wrong to keep them caged up.

**DOCTOR**

Like all dreams, they fly away. That'll confuse the ornithologists.

**RICK**

Once the market picks up, Doctor, how's about a spell as a tv presenter? You're a natural on screen. You pick the subject. I'll shoot the series. How's that?

**DOCTOR**

No, no, Rick. Thanks for asking, but I think I'm suddenly going to get a bit of a headache.

(BEAT)

**YOANNA**

Tegan? How are you feeling?

**TEGAN**

Woozy. Light-headed. I'd like to sleep for a week.

**TURLOUGH**

Me too.

**NYSSA**

It's the shock, I expect. I feel fine.

**YOANNA**

Lucky you. You're the exception.

**TURLOUGH**

(CAUTIOUS) The Mara has gone now, hasn't it?

**NYSSA**

That's what Tegan usually says.

**TEGAN**

And the Doctor always says it's gone.

**YOANNA**

Come on, you lot. The future's brighter, even if the helplines will be busy for months. The Doctor agrees. He'd make an excellent counsellor, don't you think? He's such a good listener.

**TURLOUGH**

The Doctor?

**TEGAN**

That's a matter of opinion.

**NYSSA**

Ahem.

**DOCTOR**

I heard that! Tegan? I'm truly sorry. Now we all know how you felt.

**TEGAN**

Thanks.

**NYSSA**

So has the Mara gone?

**DOCTOR**

I doubt it. Deep down, it's in all of us. It always will be.

**TEGAN**

Thought so.

**YOANNA**

Keep busy. That's my motto. And erm... Doctor?

**DOCTOR**

Ah...

**YOANNA**

I wanted to ask...

(FX: HER PHONE TRILLS)

Ugh... we do have posts available...

**DOCTOR**

Better answer that, Yoanna. Goodbye. Thank you. (MUTTER) Come on you three, time we were going.

**YOANNA**

Doctor! Oh...

(FX: ANSWER PHONE)

Mara helpline. This is Yoanna Rayluss. How can I help you?

**THE END**

**DADDA DESAKA'S "WORDLESS" DIRGE**

Night swallows Day,  
Day blinds the Night.  
Dark follows Light  
Light casts the Dark.  
Desolation drowns Hope,  
Hope conquers Despair.  
The Poor rob the Rich,  
The Rich ignore the Poor.  
Experience drowns innocence,  
Innocence was happy.